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Gripping stuff

The great hugging debate: **Leader, p17 Nigella Lawson, p15**



That £2m sinking feeling

Crew survive as America's Cup contender splits in two during storm, **page 42**

20P

THE TIMES

No. 65,208 TUESDAY MARCH 7 1995

Hughes quits after affair

Tories hit by minister's resignation

BY PHILIP WEBSTER AND NIGEL WILLIAMSON

JOHN MAJOR lost another senior Government member yesterday when Robert Hughes, the Public Service and Science Minister, admitted an extra-marital affair and resigned to try to save his marriage.

In the latest in a chapter of scandals that has dogged the Government since the 1992 election, Mr Hughes left office saying he had put "unacceptable pressure" on his marriage because of the affair.

Appearing briefly with his wife at the Conservative Association offices in his constituency of Harrow West, he said: "I cannot carry out my ministerial responsibilities at the same time as putting my marriage together."

The Prime Minister, who was told on Friday that Mr Hughes intended to resign, swiftly appointed John Horam, a former Labour Minister who defected to the SDP before joining the Tories, to replace him.

Mr Hughes's departure came as a shock even to his closest colleagues. It is understood that he told the Conservative Whips he was resigning and that no pressure was put on him to go. Downing Street announced yesterday that the resignation was for "family reasons".

He appears to have agreed with his second wife, Sandra, that he should leave office to concentrate on their marriage after confessing to her that he had had an affair. They have three young daughters. Speaking to reporters in Harrow yesterday, he said the affair had ended more than six months ago. Mr Hughes, 43, is the latest in a series of junior ministers to step down from the Government.



Horam: greeted by shout of "dirty rat"

Last month, Charles Wardle left in protest at Government immigration policy and Allan Stewart, the Scottish Office Minister, went after threatening anti-motorway campaigners with a pickaxe. But since the 1992 election Mr Major has lost several other ministers, including David Mellor, Tim Yeo and the Earl of Caithness, because of troubles in their private lives.

Mr Hughes, who is popular with his colleagues, is firmly on the left of his party. He was elected in 1987 and became Parliamentary Private Secretary to Sir Edward Heath, the former Prime Minister, in 1989. He worked in Mr Major's election campaign team and served a two-year stint in the Whips' office before his appointment last summer as the junior citizen's charter minister and number two to David Hunt. Senior Conservative backbenchers were adamant that an affair in itself would not have meant Mr Hughes being required by the Government to resign. Friends felt he had sacrificed his career to save his marriage.

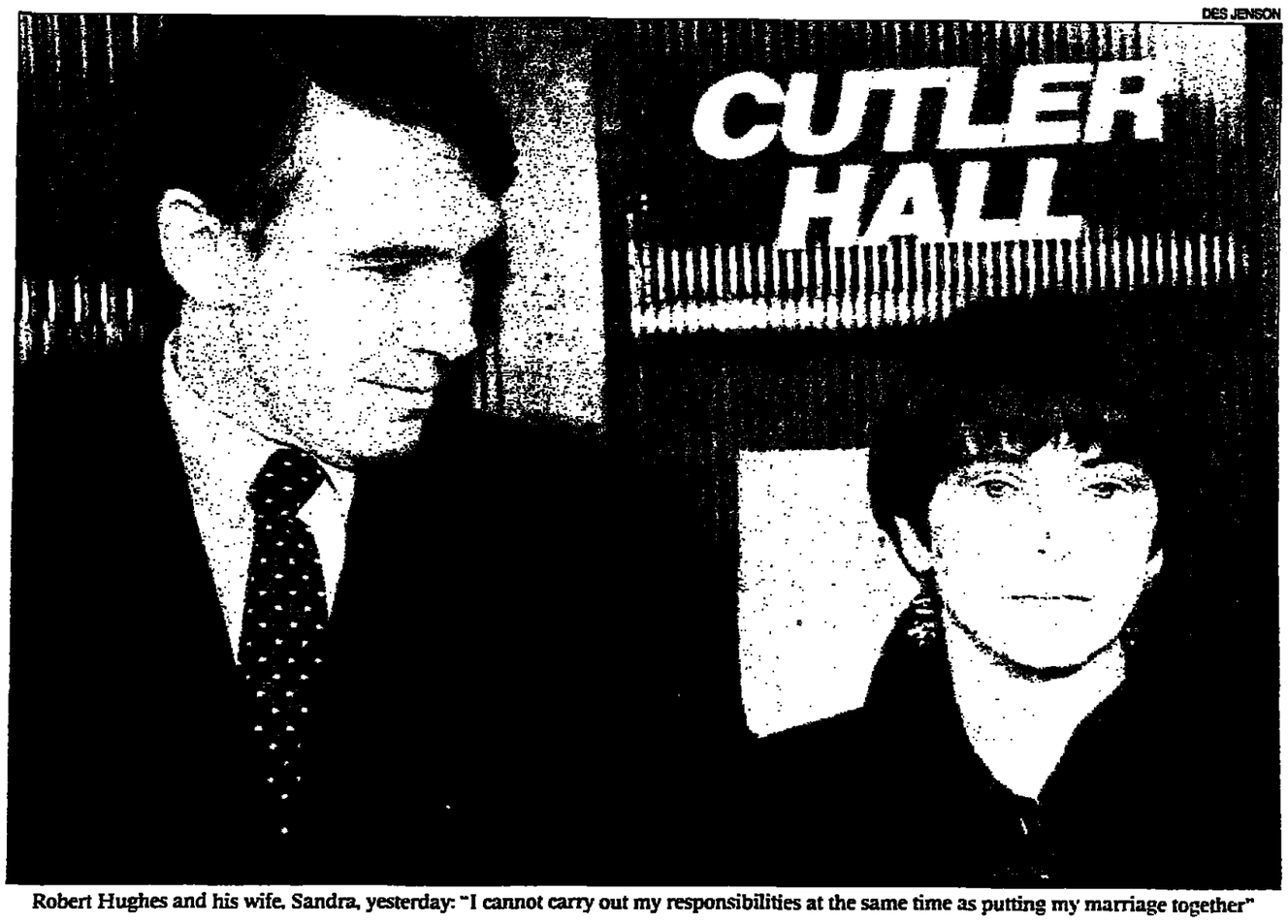
Mr Hughes, who appeared sombre and strained, said he apologised for what had happened but now wanted to put his family first. Asked why he was resigning at this juncture if the affair had ended last year, he said: "The pressure has become great and I felt now is the time to go."

Mrs Hughes, who looked tired but calmly determined, told reporters that she still loved her husband and would stand by him. The detached family home in Southall, west London, later stood empty, with curtains drawn and uncollected post on the doormat.

Mrs Hughes admitted she was "very distressed". She added: "Essentially we are a very happy and united family and we intend to remain that way." Mr Hughes made it clear he had no intention of resigning as an MP. Joyce Nickolay, the local party chairwoman, praised him for being "man enough" to admit what he had done.

Mr Horam, who is 56 today, made a swift debut in his new job, as yesterday was the monthly Commons question time slot for his department. He was not allowed to forget his past. As he rose to answer his first question Dennis Skinner, Labour MP for Bolsover, shouted: "dirty double rat".

Man in the news, page 8



Robert Hughes and his wife, Sandra, yesterday: "I cannot carry out my responsibilities at the same time as putting my marriage together"

Court backs rescue deal for Barings

BY ROBERT MILLER

THE High Court yesterday gave the green light for ING, the Dutch bank, to rescue Barings, the merchant bank that collapsed just over a week ago owing £860 million, after the majority of directors said they would forgo their bonuses. The deal was almost scuppered by a protest from bondholders who stand to lose almost £100 million.

To ensure that the deal was approved, six directors agreed not to participate in the bonus scheme for which £105 million had been set aside. Nor will there be a bonus for Nick Leeson, the man held responsible for the debacle and currently in custody in Frankfurt. More junior staff should receive their bonuses soon.

The clearance came just two hours before an 8pm deadline when ING (Internationale Nederlanden Groep) and the administrators had to sign a final agreement and inform Far East markets that ING was in control.

The ruling was held up after bondholders with about £100 million in subordinated loan notes protested at the terms of the deal. They are to receive an up-front payment of just £5 million. A fund manager said: "It's a horse trade to stop us putting the company into liquidation."

Sir Richard Scott, the Vice-Chancellor, approved the takeover and discharged administration orders that had put various Barings companies in the hands of Ernst & Young, the accountant. The parent company, Barings plc, however, remains in the hands of the administrators.

The judge was told that the Bank of England approved the package as a "generally fair settlement in the best interests of depositors" and would authorise Barings group companies to continue trading under new ownership.

Referring to the deal stuck with bondholders, Sir Richard said: "The arrangement has been negotiated and brought to court as a matter of great urgency. I am told that, unless it can become final with ING in the saddle and in a position to carry on the respective businesses by 8pm in time for the opening of business in Tokyo at midnight London time, there will be very damaging repercussions on the markets in the Far East, which might produce a domino effect of very serious proportions, not only for Barings itself but with possible international ramifications."

In those circumstances, it was a "relatively easy" decision to approve the rescue agreement. "I have no doubt that as a matter of discretion I ought to grant approval."

He said that he sympathised with bond-holder clients of Law Debenture Trust who ranked as subordinated creditors and might be less well covered by the rescue deal than they would be under a liquidation. But in the absence of evidence indicating positively that they would be adversely affected, "I don't think the possibility is sufficient to deflect me from approving the arrangement given the weight of the other reasons for approval".

Forgery accusation, page 2
Photograph, page 23
Pennington, page 25
Graham Searjeant, page 27

Gas chiefs received extra share options, Labour says

BY JILL SHERMAN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE controversy over executive pay heightened last night as Labour claimed that British Gas had awarded one million share options to six directors late last year, without informing shareholders or the public.

The options, given months after the company had decided to wind up the scheme, included 268,000 to Cedric Brown, the chief executive of British Gas, who appears before the House of Commons employment select committee today.

Mr Brown is already embroiled in a row over his £475,000 salary, and another share-based bonus worth £593,000. Last night's disclosure of another award of 268,000 share options, already worth a paper profit of more than £28,000, could boost his emoluments substantially.

Labour claims that the chief executive stands to make a profit of £240,000 from his 268,000 share options if the shares performed as well as they have done in the last three years.

British Gas last night dismissed as "nonsense" Labour's charge that the public had not been informed. "Executive share options were awarded to six executive directors of British Gas in October/November. Under the rules of the stock exchange the grants were immediately notified to the exchange and were made public."

Last night Gordon Brown, the Shadow Chancellor, was incensed over the extra awards. He urged Mr Brown to tell the committee today "what aspects of his performance justifies an increase in the number of share options awarded to him from 23,000 in 1993 to 268,000 in 1994".



Cedric Brown: already involved in salary row

Accountants

Chartered Association of Certified Accountants' December 1994 exam results will be published tomorrow.

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Union's Clause 4 blow for Blair

Tony Blair's attempt to drop Clause Four from the Labour Party constitution received a severe setback when the Transport and General Workers' Union, the biggest union affiliated to the party, told him that the nationalisation clause should be kept in its existing form.

The union is certain to oppose him at the special conference on April 29, where it will account for 15 per cent of the vote ..... Page 2

Market turmoil

European foreign exchange and share markets were in turmoil yesterday after the devaluation of the peseta and the escudo. The pound, the French franc and the escudo sank to new record lows against the mark ..... Page 23
Leading article, page 17

Mission anger

France yesterday opened a diplomatic mission to Iraq, to the annoyance of the Western allies. The United States has been trying to gain support for its continuing tough line on sanctions ..... Page 13

Legal aid scheme time 'running out'

BY FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Lord Chancellor is questioning "the whole future" of the criminal legal aid scheme after his department's repeated failure to ensure adequate controls of the system which costs £432 million a year, MPs were told last night.

After tough questioning from angry MPs, Sir Thomas Legg, permanent secretary in the Lord Chancellor's Department, admitted that the time had almost run out for the scheme in its present form.

Instead, he said, responsibility for granting criminal legal aid might have to be removed from the courts altogether and different controls introduced, such as placing it under the Legal Aid Board which handles civil legal aid.

As well as millions of pounds being granted in criminal legal aid by courts without proper evidence of an accused's income and means, MPs heard last night that more than 90 solicitors' firms were still under investigation for alleged abuse of the legal aid advice (green form) scheme.

At present 300 law firms are currently the subject of preliminary enquiries by the board, because of suspected legal aid irregularities, bringing to 2,500 the total of such investigations since 1992.

Sir Thomas told the Public Accounts Committee of MPs: "The Lord Chancellor regards the whole future of the scheme in its present form as to some extent in question." But he added: "I do not think we have reached that point yet."

MPs repeatedly expressed concern over the recent report on the legal aid fund from Sir John Bourn, the Comptroller and Auditor-General, who refused for the fourth successive year to "qualify" or approve the legal aid account.

The report, published two weeks ago, found that in more than a third of cases where criminal legal aid was granted, applicants did not provide documentary evidence as required under the regulations.

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School sets up 6in no-go zone to stop kissing

BY GILLIAN BOWDITCH
SCOTLAND CORRESPONDENT

PUPILS at a Scottish boarding school have been warned that any of opposite sex caught within six inches of each other will be disciplined.

John Robertson, rector (headmaster) of Dollar Academy, near Perth, has told pupils at the £8,300-a-year school that he is introducing the "six-inch rule" to stop them kissing and cuddling in the street. Such behaviour was not the image he wanted for the school. Teachers and pupils have been instructed to keep an eye out for pupils flouting the ruling, which does not apply to pupils in the academy's junior school. Members of the public are also being encouraged to report to the rector if they catch boys and girls from the school kissing in the street.

Approximately 1,100 pupils attend the academy, whose motto is *Juventutis Veho Fortunas* (I carry the fortunes of youth). Roughly half are boarders living in six single-sex dormitories.

Mr Robertson's tough stance has surprised parents. He was promoted from deputy rector last year and came to his new job with a reputation for being liberal. A pupil who did not wish to be named said: "We were at the assembly when he stood up and said he was introducing this '6 in rule' because spring is in the air. He then went on to tell us what it meant.

"Once we got outside, we fell about laughing. We just couldn't believe it. It's a bit of a drastic measure to take — it's not as if we're having red-hot sex sessions in the middle of the street."

David Ward, a member of Dollar Academy Parents' Association, said: "I heard about it from my 17-year-old son, who just mentioned it in passing. I've never come across this before. It's a very unusual step to take, and I'll be trying to find out more about it."

Another parent said: "I think it's ridiculous. My son thought it was a joke. How are they going to police it? Are teachers going to be walking around the school with a ruler measuring the space between pupils?".

The rector's secretary said that neither the rector nor the deputy rector was available for comment, and nobody else at the school was authorised to comment.

Nigella Lawson, page 15
Leading article, page 19

Virtual minister proves there can't be anything to the job in reality

MATTHEW PARRIS
POLITICAL SKETCH

Bad dreams recur, and some are familiar to many. One of the commonest is of being thrust into an unaccustomed role: on a stage but unacquainted with the script; in the pilot's seat but unable to fly; or in an exam room, but ignorant of the syllabus.

A variation on this might be to find yourself at the Dispatch box on a Monday in the Commons, facing the Opposition as a junior minister for the Civil Service, but knowing nothing about the Civil Service. Indeed, so far as you can remember, you were not even a minister on Sunday. Dennis Skinner is shouting: "You dirty, double-rat!"

Mr John Horam MP found himself in the middle of exactly this nightmare yesterday afternoon. He was the Prime Minister's last-minute replacement for the minister Robert Hughes who resigned over the weekend. Horam had had literally hours to bone himself up on his new job, and prepare for the Questions on the Order Paper. It would have been upsetting if he had come unstuck. It was somehow even more upsetting that he did not. There really cannot be anything to the job.

Had we not known of the circumstances, we would never have guessed, except from Labour's jeers. Horam looked and sounded as though he had been a civil service minister all his life. Had Mr Major wandered down the Strand, picked someone at random from a bus queue, and offered him or her a morning's civil service coaching in not answering questions, would we have noticed anything untoward. It's profoundly unsettling. If you don't know anything about flying, you cannot be a pilot. From this we conclude that pilots are useful. But if you don't know anything about the Civil Service, you can still be a Tory minister. From this we conclude that Tory ministers are not useful. Horam was once a Labour minister — but it made no difference. He was once an SDP spokesman — but it made no difference. In calling him a dirty double-rat, Skinner omitted one of Horam's rat-incarnations. "Triple-rat" would have been more accurate. The point is: any rat will do.

The day cannot be far off when they will install one of those hot chocolate vending machines at the Dispatch box, with an internal tape-recording programmed to say "my honourable friend is absolutely right" (to Tory questioners) or "that's pretty rich, coming from the Party which had to go to the IMF with a begging bowl in 1976" (to Labour questioners) or "what *would* be interesting would be to discover the hon Member's own policy on this issue, as his party has several" (to Liberal Democrat questioners).

No, the really disturbing nightmare is not that John Horam couldn't handle it, but that he could. A question on quangos? What could be easier. Governments, all governments, are concerned about quangos in general, but attached to them in particular.

A question about the hiving off of public services? As a Tory, Horam could make the case for hiving off public services just as easily as he could make the case against, when a Labour MP.

And there was a question on the importance of science. No minister — Labour, SDP or Conservative — doubts the importance of science. Mr Horam was sure, yesterday, that science was important.

And I reviewed his performance on video. Alone in a darkened room it was virtual reality. A virtual minister in a virtual vacuum: a virtual U-turn in political allegience — and virtually indistinguishable from all the rest.

T & G warns Blair that Clause 4 must be kept

BY JILL SHERMAN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

TONY BLAIR'S attempt to ditch Labour's Clause Four suffered a severe setback yesterday when the biggest union affiliated to the party openly defied him.

The Transport and General Workers' Union told the Labour leader that the nationalisation clause, the cornerstone of the party's constitution, should be kept in its existing form.

The union said that a consultation of its regional and district committees had shown a clear majority opposing Mr Blair's attempts to update the constitution.

The T & G is now certain to oppose the Labour leader at the special conference on April 29, where it will account for about 15 per cent of the vote. Although the union's executive will meet again on April 6 to look at Mr Blair's new draft of the clause, it is not thought that the opposition will soften.

The union's 75 delegates at the special conference are expected to back the executive's decision. Bill Morris, the union's general secretary, said: "T&G members have sent a clear message — they want the Labour Party to retain Clause Four as it is. This reflects the strength of feeling within the union on the principle of public ownership."



Morris: sending clear message to Labour

The T&G stand comes days before a critical vote on Clause Four in Scotland, where Mr Blair also risks defeat at the hands of the unions. Two hours before the vote is taken in Inverness on Friday Mr Blair will make a personal appeal to the Scottish constituencies and unions to help Labour become electable.

Although the T&G move was predicted, the leadership was taken aback by the uncompromising stand, expecting members to wait to see the new wording of the clause. Sources close to Mr Blair privately suggested that union leaders were out of touch with their membership. They pointed to a MORI poll carried out last week which showed that 72 per cent of ordinary trade union members backed the Labour leader's move.

The GMB general union, the second largest affiliated union, accounting for about 12 per cent of the vote, has suggested it will back change, although it is now asking for some commitment to full employment. It may, however, abstain on Friday in Scotland, where its members are more hardline.

Most of the other unions are expected to support Mr Blair on April 29, although Unison, with 12 per cent of the vote, is still undecided. If Mr Blair has two of the three biggest unions behind him he will be home and dry. If only one, the GMB, backs him he will probably still scrape through with the support of smaller unions. The trade unions account for 70 per cent of the final vote, with the constituency parties holding 30 per cent.

Gordon Brown, the Shadow Chancellor, last night tried to shrug off the snub and insisted that Mr Blair would win on the key vote at the special conference. "I think the important thing is that Tony Blair will win this vote on the 29th."

Asked if the union's decision represented a serious snub, Mr Brown said: "I think we've got to recognise that it is part of a debate."

The 30-member executive will now press Labour's ruling national executive to ensure that delegates can vote to keep Clause Four at the special conference on April 29.

Union leaders are annoyed that delegates will only get a vote on whether they support the new wording, not on whether they back the existing clause. Mr Morris said the consultation process had shown a "very deep commitment" to public ownership. "That was the recurring theme from our members who feel very strongly that utilities like water should be retained under some modicum of public ownership."

☐ The Lords last night backed the Government's plans for a wide-ranging shake-up in the structure of the health service in England and Wales. The Health Authorities Bill, which has already cleared the Commons, was given a second reading without a vote.

The measure would abolish the eight English regional health authorities and merge district and family health service authorities in England and Wales into new health authorities.

JONATHAN DRAKE



Dealers on the Singapore International Monetary Exchange, where Mr Leeson dealt, taking a break yesterday

Leeson held on forgery charge

BY DOMINIC KENNEDY IN FRANKFURT

NICK LEESON is accused of forging the signature of a director of a Wall Street stockbroking firm in an $81 million international transaction, according to the public prosecutor in Frankfurt.

Giving details of the allegations which led to Mr Leeson being jailed pending extradition proceedings to Singapore, it was disclosed that the 28-year-old banker supposedly forged the signature of Richard Hogan of Spear, Leeds, and Kellogg.

Hans-Herman Eckert, the prosecutor, said a copy of the document, sent from Singapore, purports to say that Spear, Leeds and Kellogg transferred 108 million marks (about $81 million) to Baring Futures in Singapore for derivatives trading on the Nikkei 225 stock market index. The prosecutor's office said that the Singaporean Justice Department alleges that Mr Leeson used the document as collateral to obtain a loan from Citibank in Singapore. This money was then allegedly used to conduct the trades that led to Barings' collapse last week.

There was no indication what connection, if any, Spear, Leeds and Kellogg had with Barings or how Mr Leeson would have been able to carry out the alleged forgery. Mr Hogan, managing director of Spear, Leeds and Kellogg, a specialist broking firm, yesterday declined to comment on any alleged transfer of funds from his firm to Barings.

Herr Eckert said the time given to the Singapore authorities to make their case for extradition has been extended from 40 days to two months.

According to the prosecutor, in order to satisfy the German courts that Mr Leeson should be extradited on fraud charges, Singapore must provide documents bearing Mr Leeson's signature that have been passed to a second party who made a financial decision based on the falsified papers. Otherwise, he would only be eligible to be tried for falsification of documents which is not an extraditable offence.

Mr Leeson greeted with relief the purchase of Barings Bank when he heard the news in his jail cell yesterday. His lawyer Eberhard Kempf, who visited Mr Leeson for two hours of detailed discussions, gave his client's reaction as he left the prison yesterday morning.

He said Mr Leeson felt the saving of Barings Bank tempered the severity of the accusations levelled against him. "It's good information for him because of the weight of the charges brought up against him," Herr Kempf said. "It is not the same if you will be charged with having ruined a bank. It's good to know that everything will be all right and the bank will carry on."

He said Mr Leeson appeared "relatively well" but he was unable to comment on his mental state.

A team of three Singapore financial police, who arrived last week seeking the Mr Leeson's extradition, have left Frankfurt. However, they are expected to return with further documents to add substance to their case.

The public prosecutor is also considering whether to fly to Singapore for further inquiries.

Court approval, page 1

Tories join protests over £90m bonuses for staff

BY ANDREW PIERCE

SENIOR Tory MPs have joined forces with Labour and the charities hit by the collapse of Barings to condemn the decision to pay the bank's employees £90 million in bonuses.

Many of the bank's charity clients had millions of pounds invested and their assets are frozen. Some have been forced to lay off staff.

Sir Peter Tapsell, the Tory MP for East Lindsey and a former stockbroker, said: "Before any bonus is paid the new owners of the bank must be absolutely certain that no depositor, or institution which lent Barings money, can lose.

"Under no circumstances should any money be paid to anyone who is responsible for this debacle and the considerable international damage it has caused to the City of London."

Some of the most prominent casualties, such as the Prince's Trust, which has £1 million invested with the bank, declined to comment on the deal forged with ING, a Dutch bank, which has ensured the 4,000 staff receive bonuses which were about to be paid when Barings collapsed.

James Bax, head of the Singapore office who warned Barings almost three years ago about the danger of giving Nick Leeson too much power, is one of the biggest winners. He will receive over £1 million. Employees of Baring Futures Singapore, where Mr Leeson worked, have not been told their fate.

Alastair Darling, Labour's City spokesman, attacked the priorities of the businessmen who struck the deal with the Dutch bank. "The first call for any funds should be depositors. I think there will be considerable anger in the country that senior executives, who are highly paid, have ensured that they get their money while their clients, some of whom work closely with vulnerable people, have been pushed to the brink and don't know whether they can survive."

Neil Buckland, director of the Cambridge-based Thalidomide Trust, which has £600,000 invested in the bank, said that an urgent statement was required from the administrators. "I cannot get any information about our assets. I have to say it sticks in the craw to know they have thrashed out a deal on the bonuses before they have had the courtesy to put us out of our misery."

Staffing levels at Aspire, a spinal injury charity based at the Royal Orthopaedic Hospital in north London, have been cut. Martina Crowley, the chief executive, said: "Every project has been delayed, then we discover that the executives, who may have known three years ago, are to receive huge bonuses. It is sickening. We have still not had a letter, fax or telephone call from Barings."

Inquiry ordered on new and 'easier' A levels

BY BEN PRESTON
EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

THE Government's examinations watchdog has ordered an urgent inquiry into the standards of controversial new A levels that boost pass rates by allowing candidates to sit papers throughout their two-year course.

The School Curriculum and Assessment Authority has told officials to prepare a detailed report in anticipation of criticism that the new-style examinations are easier than traditional A levels. The study, which is expected to go before the authority's ruling council later this month, follows concern at the rapid introduction of modular A levels in schools and colleges. Council members want assurances that that the new courses are as demanding as traditional A levels.

Unpublished research commissioned by the authority, disclosed in *The Times*, shows that pupils who take modular courses gain at least one extra grade. Council members have also heard anecdotal evidence that schools are entering weaker candidates for modular examinations.

In conventional A levels, grades are decided by final examination. But in modular courses these are only worth 30 per cent. Instead, the syllabus is divided into self-contained units usually equivalent to a term's work. Pupils can choose to be formally examined after completing each unit rather than waiting until the end of two years' study.

If a pupil is unhappy with his mark for a particular unit he can retake that examination as as often as he wishes within a four-year period.

The flexible structure is designed to increase motivation, particularly in the first year of A-level study. Pupils know how they are performing and have unprecedented opportunity to improve their grades. Supporters argue that higher grades are evidence that modular courses encourage students to work harder.

The authority is anxious to collect evidence about modular courses in the light of their increasing popularity and establish whether guidelines it introduced two years ago are being followed. Almost half the mathematics and science courses offered by the eight A-level examination boards are now modular.

In particular, council members want to know how many pupils begin modular courses and how many drop out. Dr John Marks, a council member, said: "The perception is that modular courses are easier. We do not want a two-tier A-level examination with weaker candidates sitting modular courses."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Insider becomes new BR chairman

John Welsby, chief executive of British Rail, was named as its new chairman yesterday. He will take over from Sir Bob Reid, 50, at the end of the month. Mr Welsby, 56, joined British Rail in 1978 as director of strategic studies and became chief executive in 1990. He has been an enthusiastic supporter of the privatisation programme.

Sea search fails

A two-day search has failed to trace the British solo yachtsman Harry Mitchell, 70, and his 40ft yacht *Henry Hornblower*, lost deep in the southern ocean 1,500 miles west of Cape Horn while competing in a round-the-world race.

One-day dispute

The Post Office and a union clashed over the effect of a one-day strike yesterday. The Post Office said that only 75 of 1,500 local offices were closed, but the Communication Workers' Union accused it of manipulating figures.

Brothers missing

Two fishermen were missing last night after their vessel capsized in Carlingford Lough off the Co Down coast. A third man was rescued by another fishing boat. The missing men are brothers from Carlingford.

Dooley in court

The former England rugby international Wade Dooley, a serving policeman, is to be charged with drink-driving after an accident in which a 14-year-old girl's skull was fractured. He will appear in court next month.

Help on the line

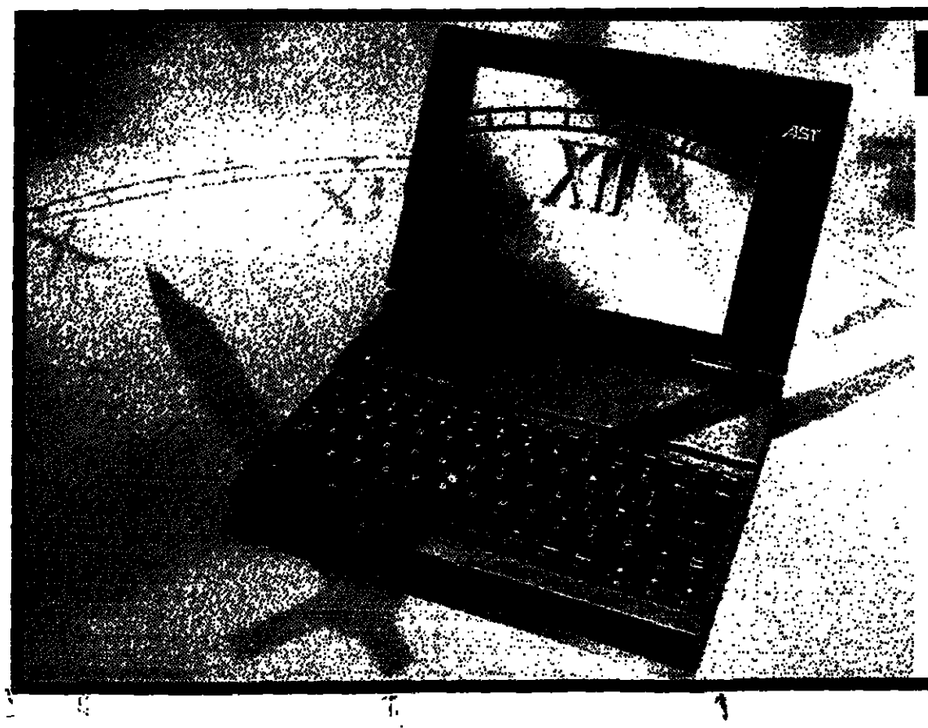
A nationwide railway timetable and passenger telephone information service begins tomorrow on 0891 910910. The private service, to rival BR's own information lines, will cost between 39 and 49p a minute.

Hunt appeal

The Court of Appeal began a two-day hearing yesterday into the right of local authorities to ban hunting on land they own. Somerset County Council claims it did not exceed its powers in banning stag hunts in the Quantocks.

CORRECTION

An alleged fraud (Michael Pinto-Duschinsky article, February 24) involved a procurement agent employed by the Overseas Development Administration, and not any public servant.



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Nursery teacher bound and gagged asthmatic boy, 4

BY BEN PRESTON, EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

A BOY aged four who suffers from asthma was bound and gagged with sticky tape by his nursery teacher as punishment for clapping in class.

Nathaniel Thomas's father said yesterday he was considering legal action, in spite of receiving a full apology after the incident at the nursery unit of Lea Bank Junior and Infant School in Lea Bank, Birmingham.

Dean Thomas claimed that his son's hands and legs were tied together to stop him making a noise. When he continued, the teacher gagged him. "My boy was punished because he was clapping in class. I wouldn't expect a teenager to be treated like that, let alone a four-year-old child," Mr Thomas said.

He said the punishment lasted 30 minutes. "I am sure the teacher could have punished him in many other ways, like making him stand on his own in the corner. My son is asthmatic and this could have triggered a reaction, particularly when she put the tape on his mouth."

Jenny Thomas, the school's head teacher, confirmed that Nathaniel's hands were tied with tape and that another piece was used on his mouth. She said that disciplinary action was being taken against an unnamed teacher. "We are treating this extremely seriously," she said.

A spokeswoman for Birmingham Education Authority said the teacher was currently on sick leave. She said: "We do hold up our hands as do the school and fully admit that the teacher did tape the boy's hands, feet and mouth. The boy was obviously very distressed by what the teacher did to him.

"Although we understand from the school that the tape was only on his mouth for a minute or so, we do recognise this is no justification for her actions."

She said that she was not able to give details of what disciplinary action was being taken against the teacher.

Andy Howell, chairman of Birmingham education committee, said: "In the light of the seriousness of these allegations I have spoken to the chief education officer, Professor Tim Brighouse, and an investigation of the circumstances surrounding the incident is now underway."

Chris Keates, a spokeswoman for the National Association of Schoolmasters and Union of Women Teachers, said yesterday: "I do not think anyone would consider this appropriate action.

"The advice we always give is never use physical punishment. Refer the problem to senior management and, if necessary, the child should be excluded.

"Do not lay a hand on the child because the teacher always loses out. If a physical sanction is used it tends to distract from what the teacher may have had to put up with. Teachers have to put up with a great deal of frustration from difficult pupils. Four-year-olds can be just as disruptive and inflict as much damage as 15-year-olds."

Parents with children at the school expressed concern. Kerry Ingram, 26, was worried about her three-year-old daughter Naomi. She said: "I would not want anything like this to happen to her. It's disgusting, totally out of order. How could they do that to a four-year-old just for clapping?"

Karen Rawlings, 29, said: "I know Nathaniel and he has always seemed like a nice, quiet lad. I have never seen him playing up."

A member of staff who did not want to be named said yesterday that the teacher involved was off work suffering from stress.

She added: "Personally I am glad the boy's father has done what he has done. This should not be hushed up. Any teacher or nursery teacher who does anything like this should be sacked instantly. There is no excuse for it."



Colour and comedy keep Moschino name alive

THE irreverent and colourful spirit of Franco Moschino, who died last year, lived on in his designs for the Milan ready-to-wear autumn/winter collection previews, Ian R. Webb writes. "Forever Moschino" was the theme and the collection appeared to be a celebration of his greatest hits. He was known as the "Bad Boy" of Italian fashion and earned his reputation by debunking the concept of glamour and poking fun at the industry. This season's show, designed by the creative team at his studio, was full of typical jokes. As well as the ladybird dress, above, there was a little black dress with an obviously faux red, green and white beaded necklace and FAKE emblazoned across the front with an arrow pointing to the gaudy "jewels". But the real applause was saved for the finale, with the models in Moschino classics, among them a ballgown and a sari, all made from a sky blue fabric printed with white clouds. Each wore white wings as the soundtrack played *Heaven Must Be Missing An Angel*.

Surgeon's sacked mistress loses case

BY RICHARD DUCE

THE mistress of a surgeon who claimed she was sacked as his personal assistant because his wife discovered their affair lost her unfair dismissal claim yesterday.

An industrial tribunal rejected the claim of Lorraine Moore, 46, that the surgeon, John Nicholls, 48, orchestrated her dismissal after confessing the three-year affair to his wife Stella.

Mrs Moore, of South Kensington, west London, alleged that she was sacked from her £26,000-a-year post at St Mark's teaching hospital in the City because Mr Nicholl's wife demanded she be removed from his life. However, the tribunal in Stratford, east London, accepted that Mrs Moore was sacked after a disciplinary hearing because complaints had been made about her work, including one of a racist remark made against a colleague.

Mr Nicholls, dean of the hospital and a specialist in bowel disorders, yesterday denied the affair had anything to do with the decision to sack Mrs Moore, a divorcée.

Paul Dean, for the hospital, in City Road, Clerkenwell, said: "The fact of the affair was not one of the reasons for the dismissal." Mrs Moore had claimed unfair dismissal against the hospital and Hackney District Health Authority. She had earlier dropped a claim of sexual discrimination.

Boyfriend named in hunt for woman's killer

BY MICHAEL HORSNELL

THE body of a 24-year-old woman was found on a wooded hillside at a Berkshire beauty spot yesterday after a 48-hour police search.

Phaedra Walker, a care assistant from Cookham, Berkshire, who is believed to have been strangled, disappeared after leaving home to meet a former boyfriend. Last night detectives said they urgently wanted to interview Brian Cuthbertson, 24, with whom Miss Walker used to live. Mr Cuthbertson, a carpet fitter, is believed to have driven Miss Walker's red MG Metro to Gloucester Road Tube station in London on Saturday, where it was recovered by police.

Miss Walker, who lived with her parents in Cookham, had not been seen since Saturday morning when she set off to meet Mr Cuthbertson at 9am. Her body was discovered on the hillside above Cookham Dean.

The couple were thought to have met on the outskirts of Maidenhead after Mr Cuthbertson's Ford Escort broke down and he used a green mountain bike to complete the journey.

The couple lived together for several years in Booker, High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire, but Mr Cuthbertson moved to Ascot after the couple broke up earlier this year.

He was arrested in February after allegedly driving off from a crash in which a pedestrian aged 74 was killed. Mr Cuthbertson was charged with causing death by dangerous driving, failing to stop after an accident and drink-driving.



Brian Cuthbertson: car found in London



Phaedra Walker: dead on hillside

Police step up hunt for serial sex attacker

BY PAUL WILKINSON

A MAN who attacked three women in two hours at the weekend has been linked to sexual assaults on eight Roman Catholic schoolgirls in the past month. After the three latest attacks in which one victim was raped at knife-point, police in east Leeds have issued a warning to women not to walk home alone.

Detective Inspector Roy Kent, who is leading the hunt, said: "These assaults are getting more serious. He could strike again and on the next occasion he could use the knife. He is a sex maniac who must be found."

Last weekend's attacker, who has been dubbed "the *hippie rapist*", because he wears 60s-style flared trousers and a kaftan, is believed to be the man responsible for eight attacks between 6 and 27 February, on schoolgirls from Mount St Mary's Roman Catholic High School in the Killingbeck district.

A man of a similar description sexually assaulted the girls aged 13 and 14 as they walked to and from school or waited at bus stops. Each of the victims told detectives in the incident room in Killingbeck police station that their attacker looked like something out of the Sixties.

He had a wispy beard and dirty sandy coloured shoulder-length hair. He is 5ft 8in tall, in his mid-20s, with a sunken face and staring eyes. Mr Kent said: "Women should walk in pairs and keep to well-lit areas."

Starr brings laughter to trial of his gardener

BY KATHRYN KNIGHT

THE comedian Freddie Starr reduced a court to laughter yesterday as he joked with lawyers while giving evidence against his former gardener, who is accused of stealing more than £40,000 of jewellery from Mr Starr and his former wife, Sandra.

Robin Coxhead, 44, from Reading, Berkshire, who was employed by the Starrs at their home in Berkshire, claims that the jewellery was given to him by the comedian in return for sexual favours.

Mr Starr rejected the claim as he was cross-examined at Reading Crown Court yesterday. He said: "It's totally and utterly despicable and that's why I'm in court now. I've come down here to defend myself against people who do this to people in the public eye."

Mr Coxhead denies three charges of theft between 1990 and 1994 relating to items including watches, bracelets, diamond rings and a pendant necklace. Mr Starr said he had given Mr Coxhead £5,000 after an incident in which the gardener had been mugged but said there had been no other gifts. He knew Mr Coxhead was homosexual but thought of him as a close family friend.

The jury laughed as he told how he bought one of the watches while he was playing the Hilton Hotel in Las Vegas, adding: "It's where Elvis Presley used to play." Laughter broke out again when he described an occasion when he tried to outdo Englebert Humperdink by wearing two watches and a large number of rings, some of which he said he had lost.

Paul Reid, for the prosecution, said the theft had emerged after the Starrs returned to their home from holiday in February last year, during which time Mr Coxhead had been looking after the house. Mr Starr said: "When I came in I thanked Robin for looking after the dogs and parrots — not hamsters."

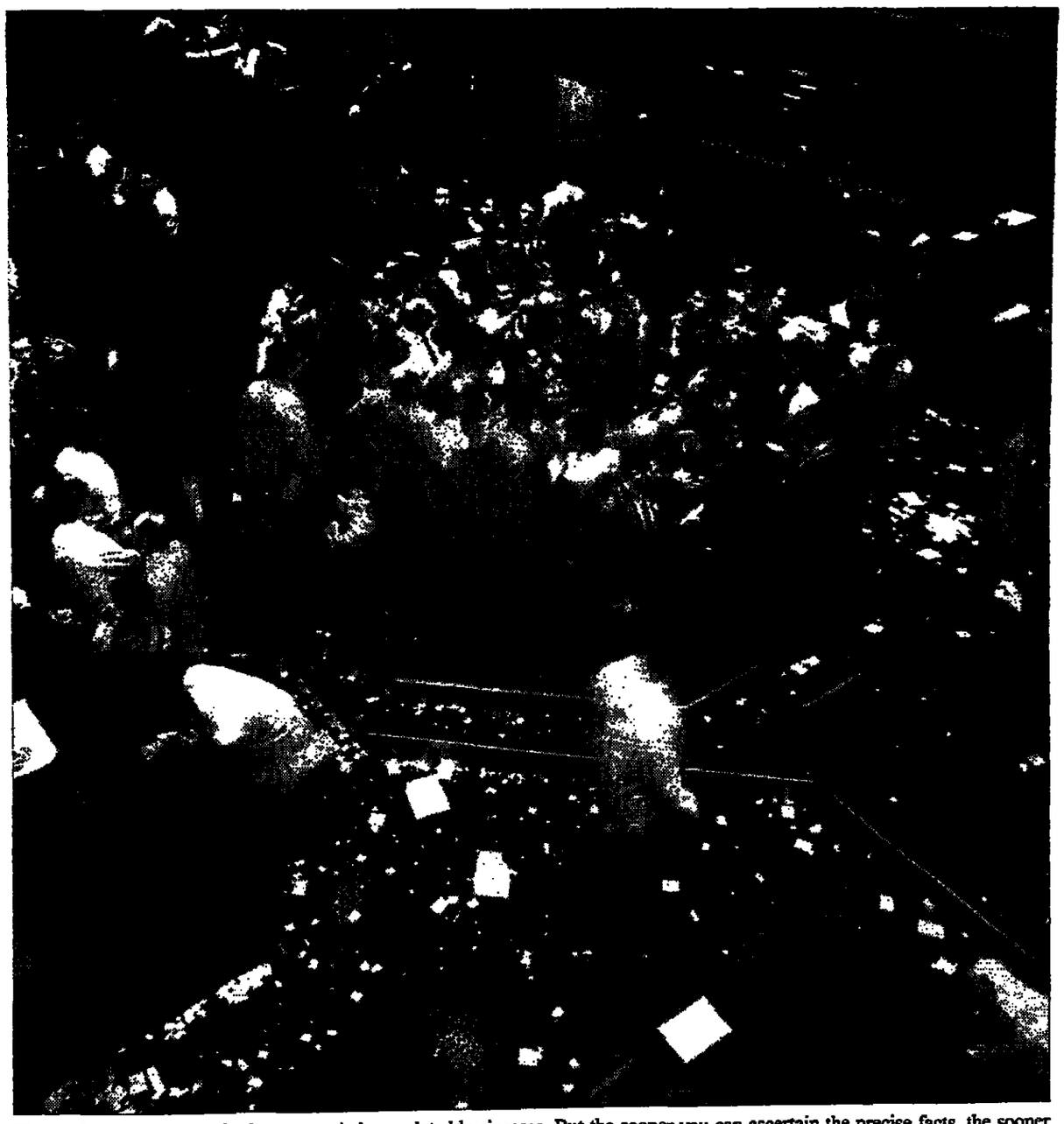
Mr Reid said Mr Coxhead told police that he did have some jewellery but claimed it was given to him over several years by Mr Starr in return for sexual favours. Mr Starr accused Richard Kovalevsky, for the defence, of trying to blacken his character.

Mr Starr said he had been on good terms with his former wife, from whom he is now divorced, until lawyers became involved. Mr Kovalevsky said: "They [lawyers] are terrible people." Mr Starr replied: "You can say that again — and very expensive as well."

The trial continues.

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Children in abuse case meet parents they do not know

BY GILLIAN BOWDITCH, SCOTLAND CORRESPONDENT

SEVEN children kept in care over an alleged sex abuse case met their parents yesterday, three of them for the first time in five years. Some of the children, who were babies when they were taken into care, have no memories of their parents.

Eight children were taken from their parents five years ago after allegations of ritual sex abuse, sadism and torture in Ayrshire. A week ago three judges ruled that the children, now aged between five and 15, should never have been taken from their homes.

One child, a girl of 15 who has had contact with her parents throughout, returned home immediately but the judges ruled that the other children's return should be more gradual to minimise the trauma.

The meetings are being monitored by two curators: a psychologist and a psychiatrist. They will judge how much access the parents should have to their children before they return home. They will report back to the Court of Session in Edinburgh on March 21 and, assuming the reunions have gone well, the children will then be allowed to return home.

The three Court of Session judges will base their decision on the children's future on the curators' reports but have already ruled that the children should be returned home "as soon as possible". All seven children still in care are likely to be returned to their homes in a fortnight's time.

Lord Hope, the Lord President, said yesterday that the court was pleased with the full reports they had received updating them on the situation, although another hearing was needed.

Paul Burns, the parents' lawyer, said: "Everything is now in the hands of the curators." He said reports that the children did not want to see their parents were "neither significant nor surprising". He blamed them on Strathclyde social work department, which has been severely criticised by the courts for its role in the affair.

Mary Hartnoll, director of social work at Strathclyde Region, said the fears were normal because the children did not know their parents properly and did not want to leave the special unit where they lived for another home.

Dr Malcolm Hill, of Glasgow University's centre for the study of the child and society, said much would depend on whether the children's memories of their parents had been kept alive by their brothers and sisters or their carers. Their successful reintegration will depend to some extent on whether they have positive or negative attitudes towards their parents.

"The reintroductions will have to be handled gradually and sensitively and they will need individual support for some timme to come.

"Obviously a degree of continuity would help but that may be difficult. The children may find themselves changing schools and friends and having to adjust to new situations on several fronts at the same time. In these circumstances, if there is hostility towards the carers, then continuity might be difficult."

Mr Burns said the issue of compensation for the families would be dealt with in the future. "At this stage we are simply concentrating on getting the families together."



Judy Garland takes centre stage in the 1954 musical film version of *A Star Is Born*, which Sir Andrew is to produce as a West End show

A show is born from the Garland classic

BY ALEXANDRA FREAN
MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

SIR ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER is to bring the classic Judy Garland film, *A Star Is Born*, to the West End and Broadway in its first stage production. The composer secured the rights to the stage version from Warner Brothers at the weekend.

A spokesman for Sir Andrew's company, the Really Useful Group, said yesterday that he intended to act as producer and would not be writing any new songs for the show. "He thinks that Harold Arlen's original score is wonderful and that he could not hope to compete with songs like *The Man that Got Away*."

A Star Is Born is likely to open within 18 months to two years. Although Sir Andrew wants it to be staged first in London, availability of theatres may result in it being premiered in New York.

Casting has not yet begun, but Sir Andrew is hoping that Garland's role will be taken by a relative newcomer, while the part played in the 1954 film by James Mason will go to an established artist.

Garland, who used *A Star Is Born* to stage one of her many comebacks, gave one of her best screen performances in the film, which tells the story of a young actress whose career is taking off and an ageing actor on the skids.

☐ The hit musical, *Five Guys Named Moe*, is to return to the West End because of a strong demand for tickets. The show, which closed on Saturday, will open in the summer at a theatre to be announced.

Navy officer stole to pay for love trip

A MARRIED warrant officer who ran the Royal Navy's £9 million travel budget abused his position to fund a trip to the West Indies in pursuit of his lover, a court martial was told yesterday.

Christopher Chiswell, 46, a father of three, from Ivybridge, Devon, was jailed for six months and dismissed the service after admitting theft.

Chiswell, a senior rating with 31 years' "exemplary" service, used naval funds to pay for his £1,000 return flight to Trinidad last year, claiming he was going on business, the hearing at Portsmouth was told. He spent five weeks with his lover, leaving his wife at home.

Three killed as joyrider crashes

BY ROBIN YOUNG

A BOY of 16 who took his mother's car without permission killed himself and two others in a head-on crash. Carl Edwards's victims were the young mother driving the car with which he collided, and an 11-year-old friend, one of four he had taken for a ride in his mother's Peugeot 106.

Edwards, who was too young to hold a driving licence, drove at over 60mph through a narrow village street with a 30mph limit and collided with a car being driven at about 20mph by Leanne Davies, 21, the mother of a three-year-old boy, Thomas. It took firemen nearly two hours to cut the three dead and four seriously injured from the wreckage.

Edwards, of Croeserw, West Glamorgan, was accompanied by his brother Robbie, 10, Robert Evans and Lisa Howells, both 16, and Roy Davies, 11, who was also killed.

They collided with Miss Davies's Ford Fiesta four miles from Edwards's home, in the village of Nantyffyllon on Sunday night. Christopher Jones, 24, Miss Davies's boyfriend who was in her car, and Robbie Edwards were both critically ill on life-support machines in the Princess of Wales Hospital, Bridgend, yesterday with head and chest injuries.



Killed: Leanne Davies



Orphaned: Thomas Davies

Robert Evans and Lisa Howells were also in the hospital, both described as "stable" with broken thighs and hips.

Miss Davies, of Garth, Maesteg, was on a night out with her boyfriend and had left her son with her parents.

Detective Inspector John Adsley said the car was taken without permission. "It is yet another incident to add to the catalogue of horrific crashes because of a young person driving without a licence." He appealed for witnesses.

PC Neil Youlden, who was the first at the scene, said: "It is absolutely terrible to see young lives lost in this way. It was like a scene from your worst nightmare — just carnage, blood and bodies."

Howard revives offender tagging

BY RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

A SCHEME to fit offenders given curfew orders with electronic tags is to be started in June, the Home Office announced yesterday.

The nine-month experiment had been due to begin in three areas last December, but is understood to have been delayed because of a lack of interest from private-sector firms and high bids from contractors.

Offenders over 16 who have a curfew order imposed on them by magistrates will wear an electronic tag on their wrist or leg, which will transmit a signal to a receiver linked to a central computer. This will alert an operator if the offender breaks the curfew. Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, told MPs in a written Commons answer that the £1.4 million trials will begin in Manchester, Norfolk and Reading.

During the trials, the courts will be able to give a curfew order to an offender for a minimum of two hours and a maximum of 12 hours a day, for up to six months. It can be imposed in combination with other community sentences.

Tagging was tested five years ago on 50 people on bail. The equipment broke down regularly and 29 offenders violated their curfew or were charged with a new offence.

Woman in wrongful arrest wins £12,000

BY LIN JENKINS

A PREGNANT woman who was arrested in an armed police raid on her home and taken from the house at gunpoint wearing a dressing gown and carrying her young daughter has been awarded £12,000 compensation.

In an operation that West Midlands Police admitted was based on information which proved "unsubstantiated and unreliable", her husband and a friend were also arrested at gunpoint when they returned to the house. They were awarded £15,000 and £10,000 each. Ron Hadfield, Chief Constable of West Midlands Police, in a statement to Birmingham County Court yesterday, apologised to the three. The statement read to Judge David Wilcox said that Mr Hadfield "wishes to express his regret unreservedly for the ordeal they have each been through". It said that the three were "persons of good character and are entirely without previous convictions".

Police accused them of having a sub-machinegun and a sawn-off shotgun in the house and believed one man had been part of a gang planning an armed robbery. The information being acted upon one morning in July 1991 was thought at the time to be reliable and therefore police acted quickly in view of the potential danger to people in the vicinity.

Cindy Walker, 32, had been waiting for her husband, Paul, a psychiatric nurse, to return from work when the armed-response unit announced their arrival at the semi-detached home in Perry Common, Birmingham, through loudhailers. She was forced to carry her daughter, Jade, two, wrapped in a blanket. "We are still not satisfied with how this ended," she said yesterday. "Apart from the apology from the police we still need to know the truth."

Mr Walker, 32, the son of a police officer whose sister is also in the force, was held for ten hours after his arrest. He said: "I am satisfied with the result, but I wish it was a sincere and heartfelt apology. We had to go to court to get it."

Quentin Blackmore, 35, who has since moved to Wales, said after the hearing that he wanted to put his arrest and seven-hour detention behind him. "It could have been resolved a long time ago. The police acted in an appalling and cavalier manner."

Loss of giant ore-carrier in storm to be reassessed

BY PAUL WILKINSON AND RONALD FAUX

INVESTIGATORS are to re-examine the loss of the giant ore-carrier *Derbyshire*, which sank with all hands in a typhoon off Japan 15 years ago. It is the largest British-registered ship to be lost at sea.

Lord Donaldson of Lymington, who conducted the inquiry into the foundering on Shetland rocks of the tanker *Braer*, has been asked to head a team to examine whether it is worth holding a fresh public inquiry into the sinking, which claimed 44 lives.

Relatives of the victims, who believe design faults led to catastrophic cracking of the hull, say they are disappointed by the decision of Brian Mawhinney, the Transport Secretary, not to order an immediate fresh public inquiry despite new evidence that contradicted the official opinion that the 169,000-tonne vessel had been overwhelmed by enormous seas. A 1987 public inquiry concluded that the disaster had been caused by "adverse weather conditions". Lord Donaldson, a former Master of the Rolls, will assess what further work might be undertaken to determine the cause, how much it would cost and its future value to British shipping.

Marion Bayliss, 57, from Corby, Northamptonshire, the secretary of the Derbyshire Families Association, said: "How can they quibble about the cost of an inquiry like this? It is 15 years since the tragedy and we are no closer to finding out what happened." Her husband, Curly, 42, was the *Derbyshire*'s chief officer.

She added: "There were 44 people on that ship but they weren't just people, they were fathers, husbands, sons, wives and sisters. Since 1971, 88 bulk carriers have gone down with the loss of 2,000 lives. Last year alone 19 sank."

Paul Lambert, whose brother, Peter, was lost, said: "We want the first public inquiry to be deemed invalid and its findings unsafe. We want a return to the wreckage site to complete the investigation and we want a fresh public inquiry."

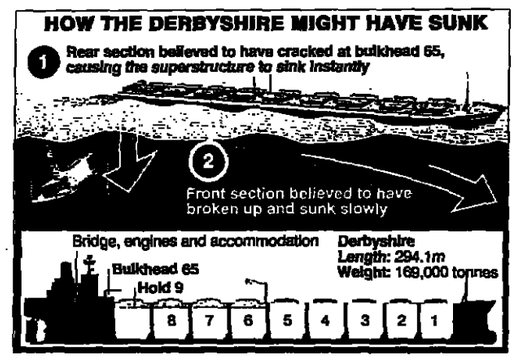
Supporters of the families have already provided fresh evidence to indicate that serious construction flaws led to a crack developing between the cargo holds and the rear section of the ship containing the accommodation and controls. They believe that, in the force-12 conditions of Typhoon Orchid, the stern snapped off and sank almost instantly. Similar cracks developed on other ships of the class built in the 1970s by Swan Hunter on Tyneside. The most notable was the *Kowloon Bridge*, which broke up off the Irish coast at Bantry Bay in 1987.

Last June, an expedition funded by the International Transport Workers' Federation located the *Derbyshire* lying on the seabed at a depth of two-and-a-half miles. Pictures from remote cameras indicated a break-up of the ship before sinking.

In a Channel 4 documentary to be shown tomorrow night, Dr Dan Khoushy, maritime consultant to the Bibby Line owners at the 1987 inquiry, says: "It is very possible that the ship was lost due to massive structural collapse. It is now very necessary a new expedition is mounted to pinpoint the cause of the loss. We owe it as a debt of honour to those who died."

Margot Norman, page 15

HOW THE DERBYSHIRE MIGHT HAVE SUNK



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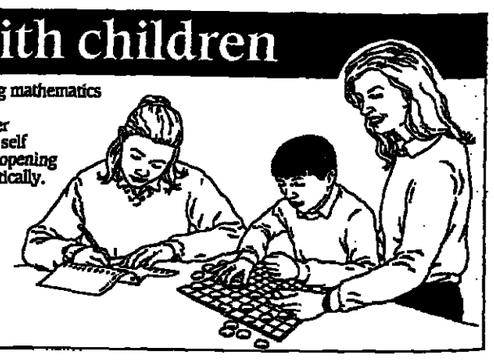
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Council approves secure housing for anti-social tenants

BY GILLIAN BOWDITCH, SCOTLAND CORRESPONDENT

A HIGH-SECURITY housing scheme designed to turn anti-social families into model neighbours has been approved despite fears that the properties will become a ghetto for problem families.

The £1 million scheme involves putting up a 6ft perimeter fence round a tenement block in Dundee, introducing a night-time curfew and installing reinforced glass. The proposed block has been called "mini-Colditz" by local residents, who have gathered 2,000 signatures in protest.

The three-storey block of flats chosen by the council is to have four cameras to monitor those entering and leaving the properties. The so-called suitcase families living there will have become homeless by breaching tenancy agreements. They will be supervised 24 hours a day by counsellors who will sleep on the premises, and tenants will have to guarantee to abide by a code of conduct.

Yesterday, the housing committee of Tayside Regional Council, which is Labour-controlled, backed the scheme. It already has the support of Dundee District Council and NCH Action for Children, the children's charity. The Scottish Office is funding 75 per cent of the cost over four years. The scheme, expected to be in operation by the end of the year, is believed to be the first of its kind in Britain. Colin Flinn, of NCH, says: "The idea is to give families a second chance and to try to break the cycle of homelessness. None of the families housed in the block will be currently anti-social."

Mr Flinn said the perimeter fencing was designed to protect children in the play area from traffic. The reinforced glass in the ground floor would be for security. The curfew would help to provide discipline and security, and cameras were standard in such projects.

The council voted to set up a project advisory committee of 16 members, 12 of whom would represent community interests. They will be able to discuss how the scheme is run.

Opponents plan to appeal to a full meeting of Dundee District Council. The city has a reputation as one of the country's most radical councils when dealing with problem families. The council is also looking at plans to evict anti-social tenants quickly.

It recently submitted proposals to the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities that would allow it to take eviction powers from sheriffs and give them to tribunals, abolish the statutory notice to evict and give the council the final say over evictions. The council has evicted 30 tenants in the past two years and has legal action pending against 170. The new proposals have been criticised by the Scottish Council for Civil Liberties.

☐ The problem of stamping out anti-social behaviour on housing estates is now being tackled in two ways (Ian Murray writes). The most common is through a system of neighbourhood watches, backed by professional witnesses. The second, as with Dundee, is to impose good-behaviour conditions on tenants.

The pioneer of a sophisticated neighbourhood watch scheme was Sedgefield. For 18 months the council has employed 11 uniformed ex-policemen equipped with six vehicles and two-way radios who patrol and respond to emergency calls from the public. The crime rate in the district has dropped by 20 per cent in a year.

Many councils, from Sunderland in the North to Southwark in London, now employ professional witnesses, either from their own staff or from private agencies, who collect evidence to bring troublemakers to court. A high proportion of residents are frightened to give evidence against near neighbours so the professional witness is the only way in which a council can seek an eviction order.

Housing associations vet prospective tenants increasingly thoroughly before granting a lease.

TONY WHITE



Robert Steel, 74, relaxes in the sun in London yesterday before starting a 4,444-mile sponsored walk round the perimeter of Britain to mark the National Trust's centenary. He hopes to raise £150,000 for coasts and countryside conservation

Scots fare worst in battle with tobacco

BY JEREMY LAURANCE
HEALTH SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

SCOTTISH women have the highest death rates in the world from smoking, according to the Imperial Cancer Research Fund.

Figures from the fund published today also show that the Scots are 50 per cent more likely to be killed by tobacco in middle age than the English. Among women the death rates are 66 per cent higher than in England and among men 33 per cent higher.

However, other figures show that the Scots are no more likely to take up smoking than the English. A survey by the Health Education Authority shows that southerners are more likely to try smoking than northerners, but they are better at giving up the habit.

While almost 75 per cent of both Scots and English have smoked at some point, only 30 per cent of the English are current smokers, compared with 39 per cent of Scots.

The findings suggest that smokers face greater difficulties in giving up the habit in Scotland and the North, which may provide the key to regional differences in smoking rates. The survey results showed little evidence of a North-South divide in smokers' desire to quit.

Dr Robert West, reader in psychology at St George's Hospital Medical School, London, and author of the report, said: "It is not the case that people in the North and Scotland are more likely to take up smoking. But people in the South are more likely to give up."

The survey report, *Escape from the Nicotine Trap*, published to coincide with No Smoking Day tomorrow, found that groups among whom smoking was highest had the lowest rates of giving up. Dr West said: "It is more difficult to give up when those around you are smoking. It is a bit of a vicious circle. If you live in a group or region where there is a high number of smokers it will make it more difficult to give up."

Mormons spend £14m on farmland

BY MICHAEL HORNSBY
AGRICULTURE CORRESPONDENT

THE Mormon Church has spent about £14 million on buying nearly 9,000 acres of prime arable farmland in south-east England, its first big investment in agriculture outside North and South America.

Church officials began their buying spree last August with the £6.5 million purchase from the BBC's pension fund of three farms in Cambridgeshire occupying a total of 3,748 acres.

The church has since acquired three more farms — from the Kleinwort Benson Farmland Trust — for a similar sum. The land is at Sleaford in Lincolnshire (1,385 acres), at Wiggenhall in Norfolk (1,492 acres) and at Saxmundham in Suffolk (2,282 acres).

Philip Wheeler, the church's controller in charge of farming, said: "We plan to run the farms as commercial enterprises, either putting in our own managers or using the tenant farmers already in place. There is no question of using the land to set up communes or anything of that kind."

Income from the land, which is expected to amount to between £100 and £150 an acre, will be used to fund the church's welfare system. This provides unemployment benefit and other assistance to members who fall on hard times in return for them undertaking "work assignments" in the community.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints was founded in 1830 by Joseph Smith, a New England farmhand, and came to Britain in 1837. Its worldwide following is now almost 9 million.



Paolozzi: enthusiastic

Minister pledges £2.5m for new Paolozzi gallery

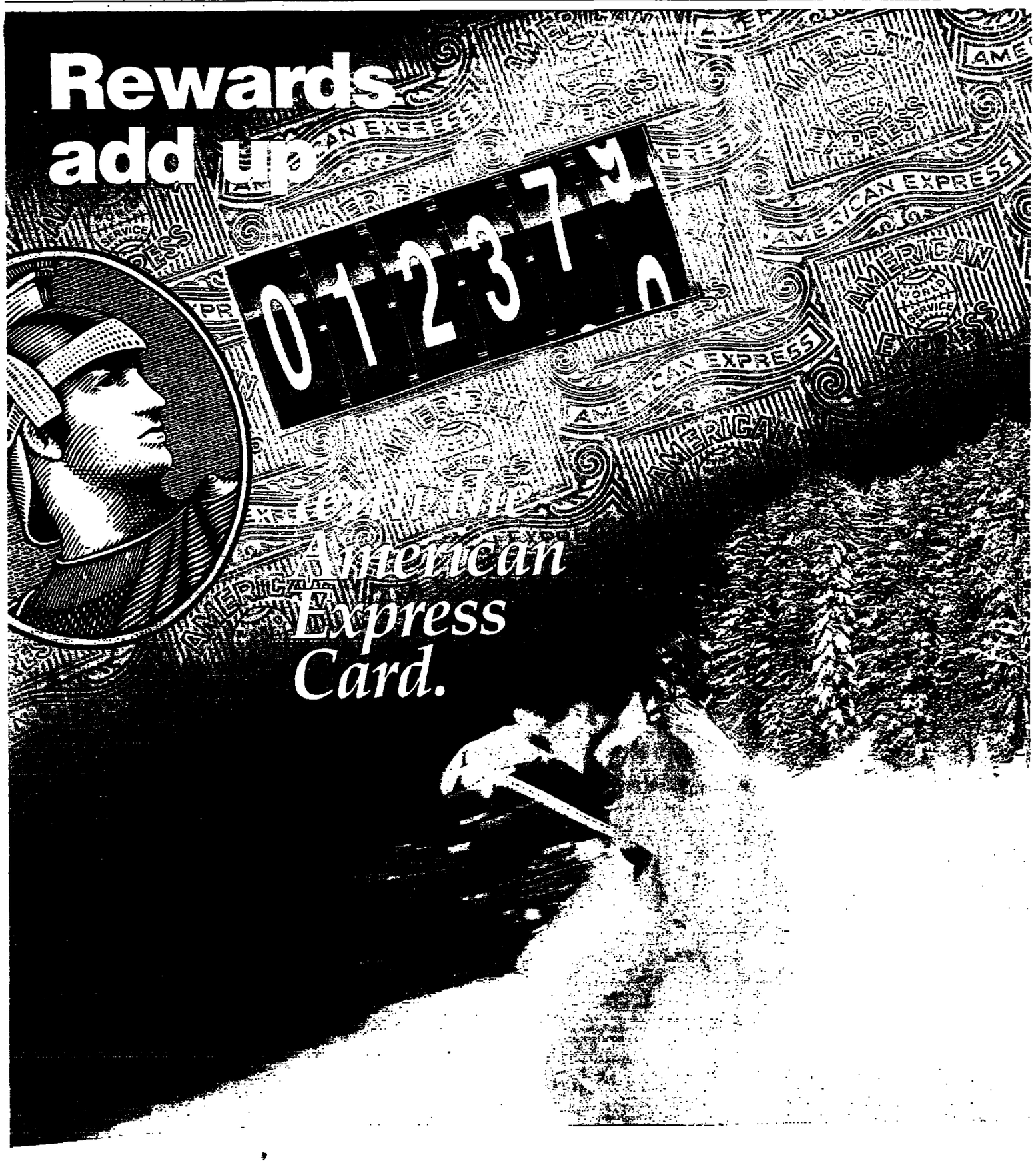
BY OUR SCOTLAND CORRESPONDENT

THE Government is to give £2.5 million to a controversial new art gallery devoted to the works of the sculptor Sir Eduardo Paolozzi. The Paolozzi Gallery, dubbed "the ultimate ego trip" by critics, will be sited in Sir Eduardo's native city of Edinburgh. Sir Eduardo has offered to donate a large part of his collection and the contents of his London studio to the gallery, but plans for a Paolozzi gallery have been attacked by critics who believe that he does not merit such an honour.

The gallery will be sited in the Dean Centre, close to Edinburgh's National Gallery of Modern Art, and should be open to the public in 18 months. The magnificent building, which was once the city orphanage, has been empty for several years. It will be donated by Lothian Regional Council to the National Galleries of Scotland for a peppercorn rent. Yesterday Ian Lang, the Scottish Secretary, gave his backing to the scheme and pledged the money needed for the conversion of the Dean Centre.

Critics of the scheme, including the art critic Brian Sewell, say Paolozzi's work does not justify a gallery of its own. Describing Paolozzi as "a second-rate artist", Mr Sewell says: "At best a Paolozzi gallery would be a bore." Sir Eduardo, the son of Italian ice-cream merchants, intends to spend some time working in the reconstructed studio in the gallery and will give lectures.

Large sculptures will be placed in the grounds around the building. He is enthusiastic about the project, saying it will give the public a chance to appreciate the mind of an artist and understand how things are made.



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Membership Rewards

Rise in lone households adds to housing demand

BY IAN MURRAY, COMMUNITY CORRESPONDENT

AN EXTRA 4.4 million houses and flats will be needed in England over the next 20 years for the rapidly growing number of people who want a home of their own, according to Environment Department statistics. About 500,000 of those will be required for up to a million migrants, mostly from other EU countries, who are expected to settle in England over that period.

The effect of immigration will be felt most in London, which the predictions show will become a larger, more cosmopolitan city. Although 1.04 million people will move out by 2011, some 690,000 international migrants will settle there. Since London births are expected to exceed deaths over the period by 831,000, the capital's population should rise from 6.9 million to 7.4 million.

The total of 23.6 million households needed by 2016 in England is considerably higher than Environment Department estimates made only three years ago and means that the housing stock will have to grow by almost a quarter if homelessness is not to surge. Planners will have to balance the conflicting demands of environmental protection and developers.

In contrast to the 1992 official estimates, the population is now expected to grow by 3.2 million instead of 2.4 million between 1991 and 2011, with migrants making up 850,000 of the increase. Social trends, however, mean that the need for housing is growing faster than the population. Longer life expectancy, a higher divorce rate and an increasing propensity of people to live on their own are all factors.

While the population in England is expected to rise only by 3.6 million up to 2016, the number of households will increase by 4.4 million over the same period. Half of the extra homes are required for the larger population. About one property in three will go to a single person and one in five will be needed for the growing number of pensioners.

For the first time since the household projections were started in 1969, cohabiting couples have been included as a separate category. There are 10.5 million married couple households at present, compared with 1.2 million cohabiting couples. By 2011, however, only 141,000 couples in the under 25-age group are expected to be married compared with 216,000 who will be living together. Almost a half of couples under 30 will be cohabiting, compared with just over a third at present.

Single-parent households are also expected to grow from 981,000 in 1991 to 1.26 million in 2011. However, the largest increase of all will be in the number of people living alone. That is especially marked among men and highlights the growing number of male divorcees who never find another partner. In the 30-34 age group, 54 per cent of men are expected to be living on their own compared with 37 per cent of women. The proportion of women living on their own increases steadily as they get older.

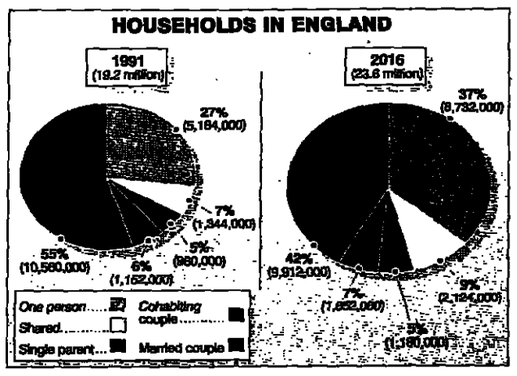
Overall, the number of households should grow by 23 per cent nationally. However, the increase is likely to be 29 per cent in the South West and East Anglia, where many pensioners move on retirement.

The figures showing the demand for nearly a quarter more homes by 2016 were described as "extremely disturbing" by the Council for the Protection of Rural England. Tony Burton, the council's planning expert, said a rural area the size of Bristol (27,000 acres) was already being lost annually in England to housing development.

"These new projections ... must not be allowed to dominate as they do at present. Planners need to work out the capacity of the environment to absorb housing rather than focus solely on the capacity of housing."

☐ *Projections of Households in England to 2016* (Stationery Office: £45)

☐ The average size of households, which stood at 2.47 in 1991, is projected to fall to 2.17 by 2016.
☐ The number of one-person households will grow from 5.1 million to 8.6 million by 2016.
☐ Household growth in the North of England will be 18 per cent, in the Midlands 22 per cent, and in the South 26.
☐ Divorces among women aged 60-74 will soar from 5.4 per cent to 15.3 per cent by 2011.





ADRIAN BROOKS

Sergeant White arriving at the tribunal, which is expected to last three weeks

NEWS IN BRIEF

Doctor is accused of killing

A junior hospital doctor was sent for trial yesterday, accused of the manslaughter of a patient. Dr Yin Yin Teoh, 25, who comes from Malaysia, was accused of the unlawful killing of Samuel Beers, 36, at the Royal Victoria Hospital, Belfast, in February 1994.

The doctor was sent for trial at Belfast Crown Court by the city's magistrates, who released her on bail of £100.

Mr Beers, from Newtownards, Co Down, is understood to have died after penicillin was accidentally injected into his brain instead of his hand. His widow Natalie was in court with her eldest son Jason, 15.

Mother's victory

A woman has won £15,000 compensation after being chosen for redundancy from a B&Q store in Colchester because caring for her handicapped child was said to affect her work. Laura Hambrook, 27, accepted the award on the eve of a tribunal hearing of her claim for sex discrimination and unfair dismissal.

Prison death

John Santacroce, 37, a remand prisoner from Port Talot, West Glamorgan, bled to death after cutting a wrist in Swansea Prison yesterday hours before a court appearance on charges of rape, threatening to kill and indecent assault.

Libel damages

Jim Allen, author of *Perdition*, has accepted libel damages from Max Hastings, Sir Peregrine Worsthorne and Geoffrey Wheatcroft of *The Sunday Telegraph* and its publisher over an article saying the play was meant to offend Jews.

Trust fined

Frenchay Healthcare NHS Trust was fined £15,000 by Bristol magistrates over the death of Reginald Newport, an 81-year-old patient at Blackberry Hill Hospital, Bristol, who fell from his bed on to a hot radiator pipe.

Football booty

Birmingham City Football Club's playing staff had dozens of pairs of boots stolen in a break-in at their ground while the first team was playing at Hull City on Saturday. The boots are worth £4,000. The club is offering a £500 reward.

Last payment

A cheque paying for the last weekend Ruth Ellis and her lover David Blakely spent at the Oaklands Hotel, Chester, is to be auctioned at Sotheby's on March 30. She killed him in 1955 and was the last woman hanged in Britain.

Police 'terrified' of sex bias claims

A POLICE sergeant's wife left him after a probationary woman officer made bogus sexual discrimination claims against him, he told an industrial tribunal yesterday. Sergeant Les White's wife of 21 years refused to believe her husband was telling the truth.

The 47-year-old officer's marriage ended soon after WPC Maureen McGinley claimed he had spread lies about her, calling her a "dangerous woman" and "an imposing feminist". When Sergeant White, a policeman for 23 years, denied the claims, he said he was told by senior officers that he had to apologise because "you can't hope to win against a woman these days". WPC McGinley was later awarded compensation and Sergeant White was transferred, against his will, from West End Central in London.

Christopher Frere-Smith, representing the sergeant, said the police were "terrified" of bad publicity involving sexual discrimination claims by women officers. He told the tribunal at Woburn Place, central London: "The sole purpose was to sweep this case under the carpet regardless of the cost it would entail to Sergeant White."

Sergeant White said he was given the task of taking WPC McGinley under his wing when she arrived from training college at Hendon.

He is alleged to have told other officers that she had a reputation as "a dangerous woman". He said: "I also said she was inclined to express her extreme views on people whether they wanted to hear them or not."

After being ordered to explain his remarks to senior officers, he was transferred to Marylebone in August last year. He is claiming sexual discrimination against the Metropolitan Police on the ground that he was not given adequate chance to defend himself against the allegations. The hearing continues.

Legal aide pocketed £75,000 in court fines

A SENIOR courts' administrator who took more than £75,000 in criminal fines to help to pay the fees at his daughter's school was jailed for three years yesterday by Chichester Crown Court. Jeffrey Slater, 38, who organised the payments system at three courts in Redhill, Dorking and Oxted in south-east Surrey, admitted five sample charges of theft totalling £75,902. Judge Wrintmore told Slater: "This was a grave breach of trust and calculated fraud."

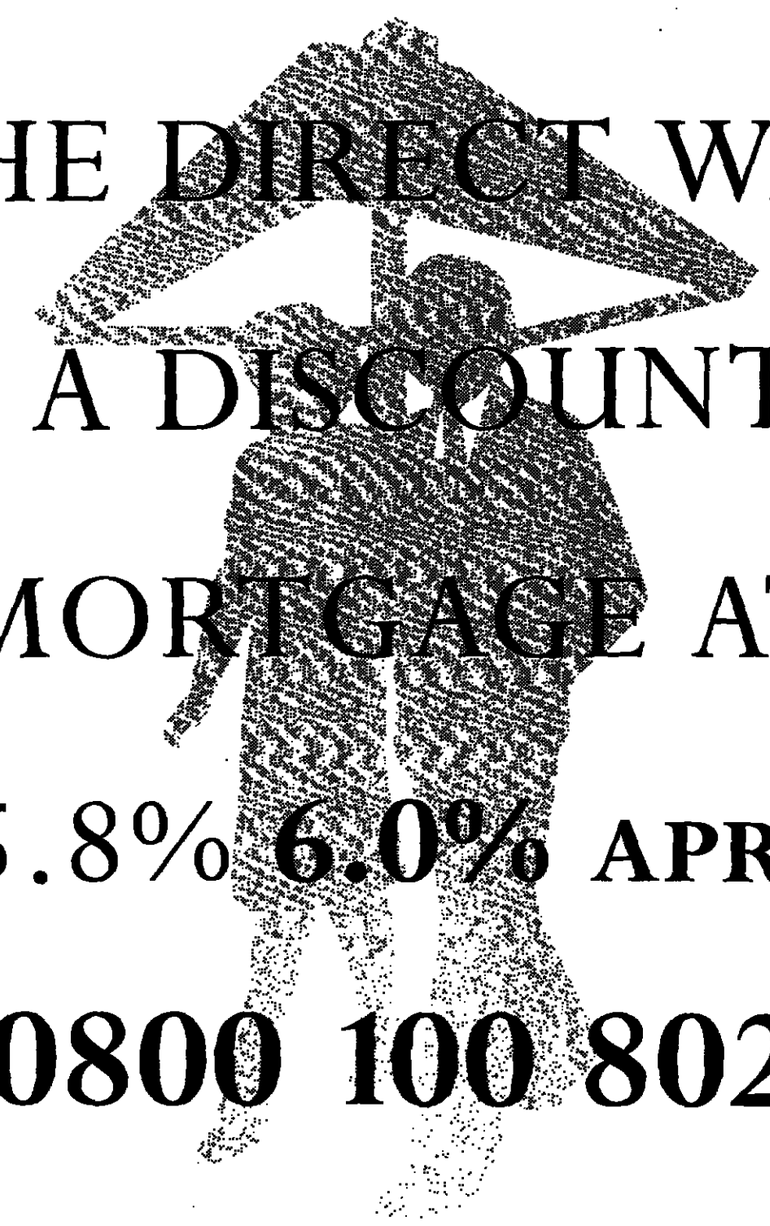
The court was told how Slater, of Reigate, had taken the money over a four-year period while in charge of court expenditure. Richard Soanes, for the prosecution, said: "Petty criminals paying their fines and expecting them to go into the public purse did not realise they were going into the pocket of a court official."

The thefts, of between £300 and £400 a week, went undisclosed for four years because Slater had devised the courts' accounting system. He covered his tracks by delaying payments, such as costs, to the Crown Prosecution Service and the police.

Mr Soanes added: "It was his belief that the CPS and police would have such trust in the smooth workings and reliability of the magistrates' courts that they would not make checks. They were soft targets."

Alan Bayliss, for the defence, said Slater had marriage problems and was running into debt. He was, in effect, doubling his salary, but he needed the money to pay his daughter's school fees.

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The moment victory was in sight

In Napoleon's steps across the Rhine

■ In our series marking the 50th anniversary of the Second World War **John Young** recalls a vital bridgehead

ONE of the best known images of the Second World War is that of the twin Gothic towers of Cologne Cathedral standing miraculously intact above the surrounding rubble. By the time American tanks and infantry entered the great Rhineland city on March 6, 1945, three quarters of the buildings were in ruins and only 150,000 people were still living there, compared with a pre-war population of more than one million.

In contrast to the speed of the advance through France and Belgium, it had taken almost six months of bitter fighting since the British and the Americans reached Nijmegen in September for the Allies to complete a 100-mile front facing the Rhine. In hardship, frustration and casualties the campaign had been likened to those of the First World War.

With the invasion forces now at last poised for the push into the German heartland, Hitler had given orders that every one of the bridges over the Rhine must be blown before it fell into Allied hands. But on March 7, the day after the capture of Cologne, a United States Army second lieutenant, Emmett J. Burrows, emerged from the woods above the town of Remagen, some 30 miles south, to be met with the sight of German troops fleeing across the still intact Ludendorff railway bridge.

The news was conveyed to a delighted General Omar N. Bradley, commanding the US 12th Army Group, and by 4pm that day the 9th Armoured division had reached the bridge. In an act of heroism, Lieutenant John Mitchell, of Pittsburgh, climbed down the structure, found the explosive charges that had failed to ignite, and disconnected the detonators.

American troops, shouting as they went, surged across the bridge, and Sergeant Alex Drabik, of Ohio, had the distinction of being the first invader to cross the Rhine into Germany since Napoleon. By nightfall 8,000 men had crossed to form a bridgehead.

Despite repeated German counter-attacks, including a rocket strike, the bridge was not finally destroyed until March 17, by which time two temporary structures had been built and four divisions were dug in on the east bank. The German major whose task it had been to blow the bridge was shot on the personal orders of Hitler.

In a rage Hitler also dismissed, for the second time, Field Marshal Gerd von Rundstedt as commander-in-chief of the German army in the west. The immensely experienced von Runstedt had led the invasion of France in 1940 but had been blamed for losing the Battle of Normandy four years later and sacked for daring to ask the Führer how he imagined Germany could still win the war.

It had taken only two months for him to be reinstated, but this time the break was final. "He is finished," Hitler declared. "I don't want to hear any more about him."

DES JENSON



Dame Vera yesterday: "We must not forget what they did for us. They are elderly and they need help"

Vera Lynn in cash plea for wartime survivors

DAME VERA LYNN, the wartime "forces' sweetheart", launched a nationwide campaign yesterday to draw attention to the hardships still being suffered by many of the survivors of her generation (John Young writes).

The Queen and other members of the Royal Family will play a part in this year's programme of events, entitled Tribute and Promise, to remind those who have lived through half a century of peace what it owes to those who fought for it. Dame Vera said many people who served in the war were now in need or simply lonely. They included civilians who worked in factories, on buses and in the fire brigade.

"We must not forget what they did for us," she said. "They are elderly and they need the help they are not getting but are entitled to."

Organisers hope to enlist the support of children and have suggested a 50p individual contribution. "A penny for each year of peace. It's not much to ask," she added.

War anniversary stirs resentment

FROM ROGER BOYES IN REMAGEN

FOUR blackened towers on the banks of the Rhine are the last trace of the battle for Remagen Bridge. Today, 50 years after American troops breached Germany's last natural defence in the West, Americans, Germans and Belgians will gather to remember the dead.

Until now, the Remagen anniversary has been regarded as one of the least controversial of this year's wartime landmarks. Two turrets have been converted into a museum, partly outlining the history of the bridge — built in the First World War for supplying the Western Front — — and partly staging an exhibition dedicated to "world peace".

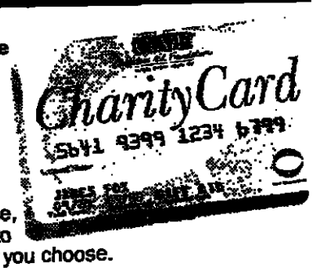
The Americans celebrated the capture of the bridge as a great military triumph and the Germans have broadly accepted their version of history. Yet a new variant is being introduced: Germans as victims. After the US victory, Germans in the Rhineland surrendered en masse. Between April and July 1945 some 260,000 German prisoners of war were held under American guard in the boggy fields between Remagen and Sinzig. They were kept in the open air and their daily ration was one potato, a biscuit, a spoonful of vegetables and some water. Racked by disease, at least 1,200 died, according to German records.

Rhinelanders have kept these memories alive but have rarely spoken openly about their resentment. Now, with the self-confidence of the new united Germany, the former prisoners have been voicing their anger. As the dignitaries speak today, crowds will gather elsewhere: at the Remagen Chapel of the Black Madonna where families of the German prisoners mourn their dead: flowers will also be laid at a war monument in Sinzig.

Re-establishing Germans as the victims rather than the perpetrators of war has for Bonn been the quiet sub-text of this year's anniversaries. The political logic is plain: Germany is now projecting itself not as a military loser but rather as one of the victors of the Cold War. The fact that Germans also suffered in wartime is being presented as one of the elements linking modern Germany with its former enemies.

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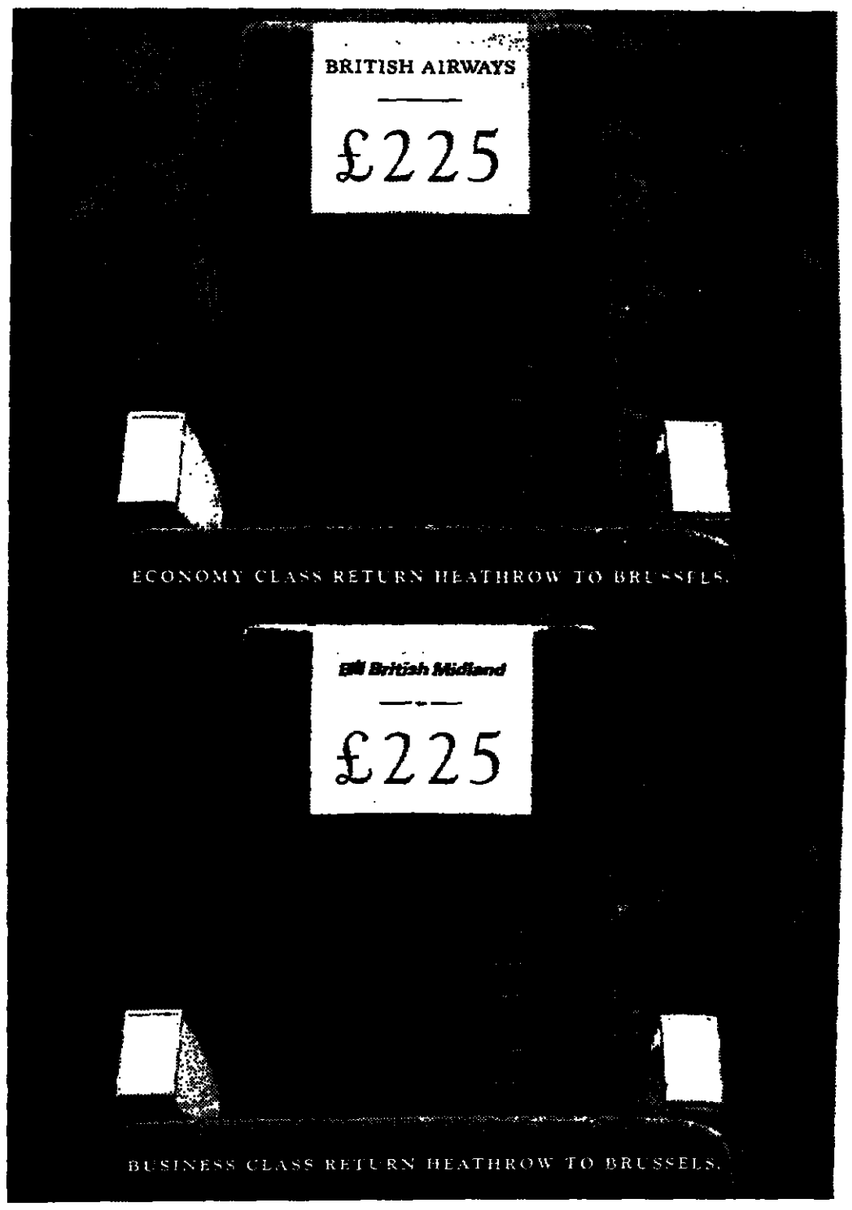
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Labour is in a muddle of its own making over regional assemblies

RIDDELL ON POLITICS

Labour has only got itself to blame for stories about party disarray over its proposals for regional assemblies in England. There is no real difference between what Tony Blair and John Prescott were saying over the weekend. But the confusing impression that has been created is not a Tory or a press invention. The party is in a muddle about regional government. The Tories have been given their first real opportunity for more than a month to counter-attack. John Major can feel content that his speech on Saturday helped to create headlines about Labour splits which lasted for two days, or news cycles as the media advisers now call them.

The promise to set up regional assemblies in England has always been for mixed motives. English assemblies have been seen as a necessary constitutional counterpoint to the party's firm pledges to set up a Scottish Parliament and a Welsh Assembly. If there was just devolution there, there would be the anomalous position (the West Lothian question) that Scottish and Welsh MPs would be able to vote on some English issues such as health and education when they could not vote on these matters affecting their own constituents. But if there was also devolution in England, all members of the Commons would be in the same position. This idea of Home Rule all around was advocated during the battles over Ireland a century ago, though it challenged traditional notions of the unitary state.

Labour has never envisaged the same regional structures throughout Britain. English assemblies would not have had the tax raising powers proposed for the Scottish Parliament. So Westminster MPs would have been in different positions. The level of demand for regional assemblies differs enormously in various parts of England, depending on the degree of regional identity. When Scottish devolution was debated during the late 1970s, some of the strongest opposition came from northern Labour MPs concerned that their region would suffer without a comparable measure of devolution. The north is now the only region of England to favour devolution to elected assemblies, according to a recent MORI poll — apart from support in London for a strategic authority for the capital. People in other regions oppose assemblies.

After the Tory assault at the beginning of this year on the constitution, Mr Blair accepted that this was a vulnerable area of policy which would have to be rethought since there is no consensus about such assemblies. A party commission under Jack Straw is due to report in the summer. Labour policy has always involved a gradual process and the emphasis has now shifted to bringing the existing regional tier of administration under more democratic control rather than on a firm blueprint for regional assemblies.

The present Government has appointed highly rated civil servants, including some possible future permanent secretaries, to run regional offices combining several Whitehall departments such as trade and industry, employment and environment. These have sizeable budgets. At present, accountability is to ministers and hence to the Commons. Labour is considering how these and other non-elected bodies and quangos might be made accountable regionally, either to elected assemblies or committees involving locally elected politicians.

The result could be a patchwork of different arrangements depending on the level of local demand. But as the shambles over the Banham commission has shown, there are often uncertainties and conflicts about what towns and cities, let alone whole regions, want. There is no reason why structures should not differ between parts of the country. Labour faces a dilemma. If it tailors its proposals in England to regional circumstances, it may avoid some of the Tory criticisms of adding a further costly and unwanted tier of government but it may in the process create constitutional contradictions. If Scotland has a tax-raising parliament, and the English regions do not, the West Lothian question will remain. There would be different categories of MPs. Labour has a long way to go to construct, let alone to sell, a politically watertight case.

PETER RIDDELL

Clarke takes softer line on prospect for referendum

BY NICHOLAS WOOD, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

KENNETH CLARKE softened his hostility to a referendum on a single currency yesterday in a move seen by Tory MPs as fresh evidence of the Cabinet closing ranks after recent turmoil over Europe.

Only weeks after saying that a single currency was a matter for Parliament not a referendum, Mr Clarke said that it was "eminently sensible" to keep open the option of holding one. In a BBC Radio interview that should help to rebuild his strained relationship with John Major, Mr Clarke said he fully supported the Prime Minister's position on a referendum as set out in his Commons speech last week. Mr Major told MPs then that it could be "necessary and desirable".

Mr Clarke said: "John Major left open the question of a referendum to the Parliament that will have to decide it, if and when we ever join economic and monetary union. I regard that as eminently sensible."

But Mr Clarke again irritated the Euro-sceptic wing of the Tory party by repeating his view that the question of whether Britain scrapped the pound in 1999 was predominantly economic and not, as critics such as the former Chancellor Norman Lamont have argued, political and constitutional.

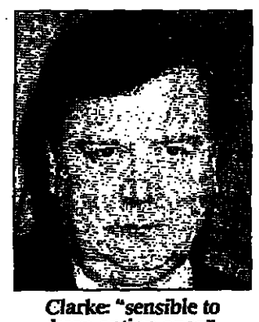
As tempers cooled after Mr Lamont's decision to support Labour in a vote on Europe last week, some leading Eurosceptics said yesterday that he had "won his spurs" by openly siding with the rebels. They said that many of the Maastricht rebels had been reluctant to embrace Mr Lamont because of his role at the Treasury in negotiating the treaty and defending British membership of the ERM.

Even among anti-European diehards, the suspicion lingered that Mr Lamont had changed tack on Europe more out of desire for vengeance against the Prime Minister than out of political conviction. But yesterday some rightwingers claimed that Mr Lamont had now secured a base among dissident backbenchers.

His admirers said they thought he would be better placed if there was a leadership challenge in the autumn. "Norman is a wounded beast in the bush and a wounded beast is a dangerous beast," one MP said.

Michael Spicer, a leader of a sceptic Tory faction trying to build bridges with Mr Major, said yesterday that the Government was in a strong negotiating position as it contemplated next year's intergovernmental conference on the future of Europe. Britain could name its price for witholding its veto over the closer political integration sought by other states.

"That price should certainly be a net retrieval of power. One way to ensure that the UK is not drawn into a federal union is to amend the 1972 European Communities Act so that the ultimate supremacy of the British Parliament is guaranteed in certain fields such as taxation, health, education, the voting system, local government, industrial relations, defence, and law," Mr Spicer said in a speech at York University.



Clarke: "sensible to keep option open"

DES JENSON



Diana Maddock: "We want equal treatment not special treatment . . . equality of opportunity not equality of outcome"

Lib Dems courting women's vote

BY ALICE THOMSON, POLITICAL REPORTER

THE Liberal Democrats launched an equal opportunities policy yesterday that they hope will make the party a clear favourite with women voters.

Diana Maddock, the Liberal Democrat spokesman on women's issues, promised that the party would strive to help the "average woman on the street". She said: "Fifty-two per cent of the population are often silenced by the minority. We seek to shatter the systems and attitudes that dictate what men and women should and should not do, leaving them free to decide for themselves the paths they wish to follow."

The party's proposals, set out in *Equal Citizens — Promoting the Equal Treatment of Women*, range from improving childcare services and education and training for women to reforming the tax and benefits system and making public transport more accessible.

Not all the policies would cost taxpayers money. The paper suggests that women should have a right to consult women health professionals and calls for increased visiting rights for women prisoners who have children and the reform of laws under which women are prosecuted for domestic violence.

Although only three of the 23 Liberal Democrat MPs are women, the party does not believe in women-only quotas, which have caused friction within the Labour Party, or in Emily's List, a Labour organisation that gives financial help to women seeking to become MPs. They also dismiss the idea of a ministry for women.

Mrs Maddock, who won her Christchurch seat from the Tories in the 1993 by-election, said: "We want equal treatment for women not special treatment. Our aim is equality of opportunity not equality of outcome."

The Liberal Democrats are equally disdainful of the Tory party's approach to women, which includes advice on dress sense and grooming for parliamentary candidates and praise for party activists who excel at making jam. "The Tories are so patronising over women's issues," Mrs Maddock said. "In 15 years of government they have done nothing for the average woman."

Political odyssey around the parties

BY NIGEL WILLIAMSON WHITEHALL CORRESPONDENT

THE reaction that greeted the appointment of John Horam as the new Public Service Minister yesterday was almost as varied as the MP's own chequered political career.

Mr Horam, who has now served in both Tory and Labour governments as well as sitting in the Commons as an SDP member, was denounced as a "dirty double rat" by his erstwhile Labour colleague Dennis Skinner. The new minister would surely have been disappointed had it been otherwise.

On the other hand, Downing Street officials went out of their way to praise a good-humoured and assured performance at the Dispatch Box by Mr Horam who, as luck would have it, found himself answering Commons questions on Civil Service matters on his first day in office.

If not quite unprecedented, Mr Horam's political odyssey has been a long and unusual one, abseiling across the face of British politics from almost one extreme to the other.

He entered Parliament as a TGWU-sponsored Labour MP for Gateshead West in 1970 and was initially thought to be on the left of the party. He was under secretary of state for transport 197[illegible] where his boss was Bill Rodgers, one of the founders of the breakaway SDP in 1981. It came as no surprise when Mr Horam became one of the party's earliest recruits.

He next appeared on the political scene on the eve of the 1987 election campaign when he announced that he was joining the Conservatives.

New commission to examine claims of wrongful conviction

BY ALICE THOMSON, POLITICAL REPORTER

MICHAEL HOWARD last night announced detailed plans to strengthen powers to investigate a growing number of alleged miscarriages of justice.

The Home Secretary told the Commons the work would be undertaken by a new fully independent body, the Criminal Cases Review Commission. "It will be independent, accessible and open. It will have strong investigative powers and it will be well resourced," he said.

The committee is to be set up after widespread public concern over the present system of dealing with potential miscarriages of justice, which is often length and convoluted. The cases of the Birmingham Six and the Guildford Four increased the pressure.

Opening the second reading debate on the Criminal Appeal Bill, which legislates for a new commission, Mr Howard refused to apologise for having waited so long to bring in the reforms. "This Bill contains the most signficiant changes to the structure of our criminal appeals system for almost 30 years," he said.

Implementing some of the key recommendations made by the Royal Commission on Criminal Justice in 1993, the Bill also strengthens the powers of the courts to resolve doubtful criminal appeals. The new Commission will examine cases in England, Wales and Northern Ireland. But the courts will continue to be responsible for determining all appeals. "This is the right approach, matters of guilt and innocence are properly for the courts to determine," Mr Howard said.

He promised that ministers would take no part in the new commission's day to day decisions and administration. Staff would be made up of legal, investigative and administrative advisers and they would have access to the knowledge, expertise and other resources of the police.

Mr Howard said: "This Bill is of the greatest importance in promoting the aim of a criminal justice system which is strong, effective and fair — in which the guilty are justly punished and the innocent have nothing to fear."

Jack Straw, the Shadow Home Secretary, told the House: "Labour supports this Bill and we shall give it an unopposed second reading." But he voiced serious reservations about the police being able to probe cases which were likely to involve themselves. "It would be far better if the system of investigation was independent," he said. He called for a core of investigators to be employed by the commission, or seconded to it, to investigate alleged miscarriages of justice.

IN PARLIAMENT

YESTERDAY: In the Commons, questions to transport ministers and the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster were followed by a debate on the Criminal Appeal Bill, second reading. The Lords debated the Health Authorities Bill, second reading, the Humberside (Structural Change) Order, the North Yorkshire (District of York) (Structural and Boundary Changes) Order and the US Defence Counter-proliferation Initiative.

TODAY: In the Commons, questions to employment ministers and the Prime Minister will be followed by a debate initiated by Labour on "the position of women in Britain", opened by Clare Short, Labour's spokesman on women's issues. In the Lords, peers will debate the Environment Bill, report, followed by a debate on a call to encourage the restoration of democracy in Nigeria.



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Currency problems put EMU timetable in doubt

FROM WOLFGANG MÜNCHAU IN BRUSSELS AND EDWARD OWEN IN MADRID

IN A performance bordering on farce, the European Commission did its best yesterday to shrug off the latest devaluation of the Spanish peseta and the Portuguese escudo, claiming that the realignment of the two currencies was "proof of the good functioning of the exchange-rate system".

Yves-Thibault de Silguy, the Economic Affairs Commissioner, said: "The creation of a single currency is not affected. All preparations [for Economic and Monetary Union] must be completed by the end of 1996."

The Commission's curiously optimistic assessment of the latest convulsions in Europe's exchange-rate mechanism (ERM) came after an emergency session of senior EU central bankers and finance ministry officials at the weekend. After a difficult meeting, they agreed in the early hours of yesterday to devalue the central ERM rate of the peseta by 7 per cent, and of the escudo by 3.5 per cent. The realignment became necessary after weeks of turbulence in the currency markets that was exacerbated by the collapse of Barings.

The Commission claimed that the realignment would have no impact on the timetable and the preparation for a single currency. Despite this reassurance, however, the realignment has at the very least put further doubts on 1997 as the earliest date at which

> "Although Portugal and Spain are still part of the ERM system, they are on a slippery slope"

Europe can move towards the final stage of economic and monetary union. It also calls in question whether any of the Mediterranean countries are economically fit to join in the foreseeable future.

The Maastricht treaty stipulates that a currency must retain its parity in the ERM for at least two years before it can join the third and final stage of EMU. Legally, Spain and Portugal have therefore missed the opportunity to join in January 1997.

Of the other Mediterranean countries, Greece has never been a member of the ERM and Italy was ejected from the system (along with Britain) on Black Wednesday in 1992. Although Portugal and Spain are still part of the ERM, they are on a slippery slope. Unless they can reassert their credibility over their determination to cut the budget deficit, the financial markets will assume and ensure that the peseta and the escudo will come under renewed pressure.

For Spain and Portugal the ERM works only in its stonewage guise as a system to ensure "orderly" devaluations against the mark. But the ERM's prime objective, currency stability, has so far eluded the south, and remains confined to only a hard-core of northern EU countries.

The two year ERM-waiting period would also apply to Britain, if Britain wanted to join the single currency in 1999, currently the most likely date for the third stage of EMU. If Britain wanted to join then, sterling would have to re-enter the ERM no later than January 1997.

In Madrid and Lisbon yesterday, government spokesmen admitted that the chances of their countries joining a single European currency, even in 1999, now looked unlikely. In Spain, the Catalan nationalists said they would maintain their support for the minority Socialist Government in spite of its inability to inspire any confidence as it attempts ineptly to cope with a series of corruption scandals and a soaring public deficit.

In Barcelona, looking strained and tired, Felipe González, the Prime Minister, who once championed the EU and a single currency, appeared at a meeting of European socialists and tried to play down the latest disaster to hit his administration. "Generally you can't strictly say that this has a been a devaluation but a re-alignment," he said. "We have lost value against the mark, but we have gained against the dollar in the past few weeks. This is the difficulty in understanding this strange situation that has devastated many currencies in the market.

"Imports in marks will be more expensive but those in dollars will be cheaper," he added. Analysts, he said, saw benefits to the economy, to tourism and to exports in the move.

The devaluation is nevertheless expected to increase underlying year-on-year inflation, currently at 4.5 per cent and rising. But there are signs that the Spanish economy is gradually recovering with last year's GDP at 1.9 per cent.

In Lisbon, a Portuguese government spokesman said that the 3.5 per cent devaluation of the escudo would further improve the balance of trade with Spain and reduce inflation, currently running at 4.5 per cent, with growth forecast at 1.5 per cent and unemployment around 7.0 per cent.

Currency crisis, page 16
Leading article, page 17
Business News, page 23



Spanish stock exchange traders anxiously scan computer monitor screens in their dealing room in Madrid yesterday after the peseta suffered a weekend devaluation of 7 per cent, its fourth fall in two and a half years

Bonn envoys take economy route to a global role

FROM ROGER BOYES IN BONN

GERMAN diplomats have been issued strict orders to fly economy class on all flights of less than four hours, to search out special fares and to surrender to the Foreign Ministry their "air miles".

All diplomats, irrespective of rank, are being urged to take the cheapest fare even when they are allowed to travel in business or first class. Secretaries have been advised to book their bosses' flights for weekends to benefit from reduced fares. Diplomats on long-haul trips may travel business class providing they stay for only a day or two; a longer trip obliges them to take cheaper fares.

The cutback underlines Germany's problems as it tries to take on a global role. Funds for diplomatic travel were cut by 15 per cent last year. In the past decade the Foreign Ministry travel budget has risen by about £500,000, but during the same period 14 new German Embassies have been opened. Germany, eager to play a global leadership role, finds itself strapped for cash and singularly unprepared.

One result is that Germany is destined to disappoint foreign visitors. This week Bonn is playing host to President Kim Young Sam of South Korea. Paul Keating, the Australian Prime Minister, Chuan Leekpai, the Thai Prime Minister, and Lamberto Dini, the Italian Prime Minister. All hope for trade deals yet Bonn has little to offer. It seems to be retreating from any foreign policy based on large financial commitments.

The warning bells have been ringing since the return from the United States of Volker Rühe, the Defence Minister. In America, Herr Rühe learned that America is expecting the Europeans — that is, Germany — to shoulder the cost of any United Nations withdrawal from Bosnia. Estimates for this operation range up to $40 billion (£24 billion). Germany's budget planners do not have even a fraction of this sum available. None the less, Germany is regarded as the paymaster. Instead of sending troops to the Gulf in 1990, Germany contributed about $9 billion to the war effort. This time the war zone is in Europe and France and Britain consider that they are doing their bit with troops.

The financial restraints on foreign policy have intensified the quiet battle for control of the ministry. Herr Rühe is projecting himself as Germany's foreign policy architect by championing Nato's extension eastwards. But the Government has two foreign policy managers: Helmut Kohl, the Chancellor, and Klaus Kinkel, the Foreign Minister. At the edges, meanwhile, various Christian Democrats are nibbling away at the foreign portfolio. At the same time, budgetary restraints are exposing the weaknesses of Herr Kinkel's ministry. A permanent seat on the Security Council, one of Herr Kinkel's most cherished aims, could prove to be a very expensive commitment.



Rühe: expected to fund Bosnia withdrawal

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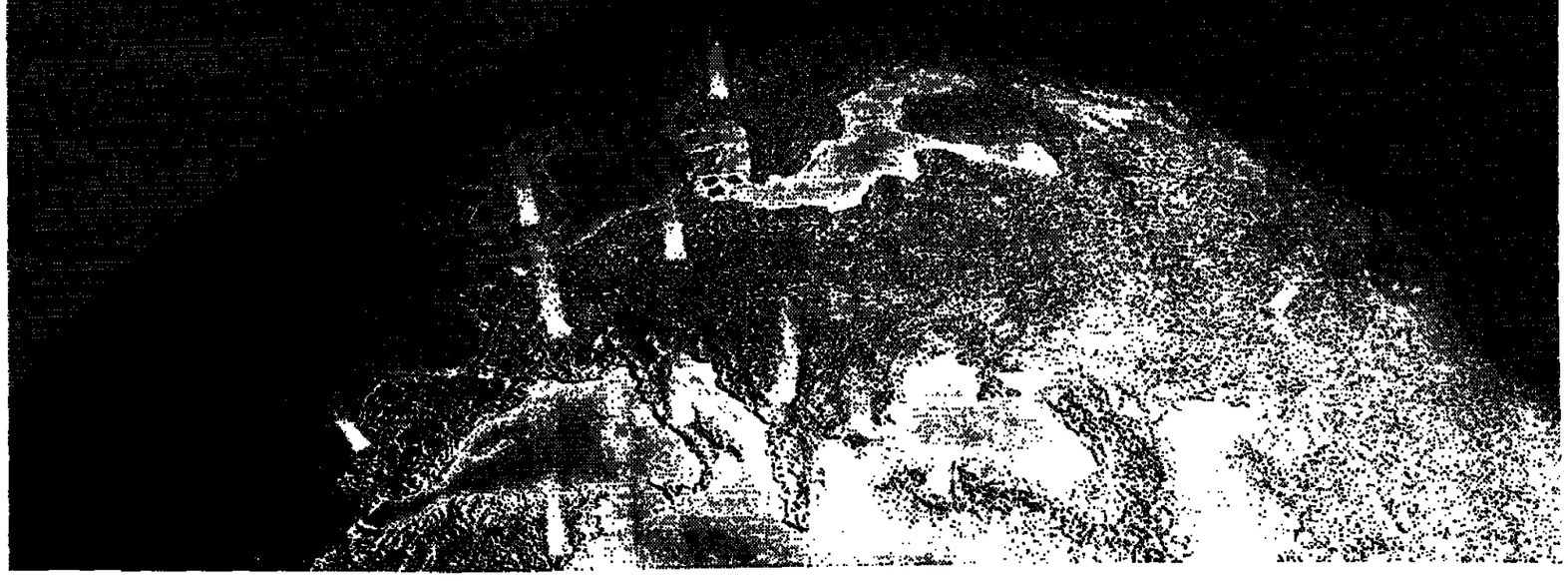
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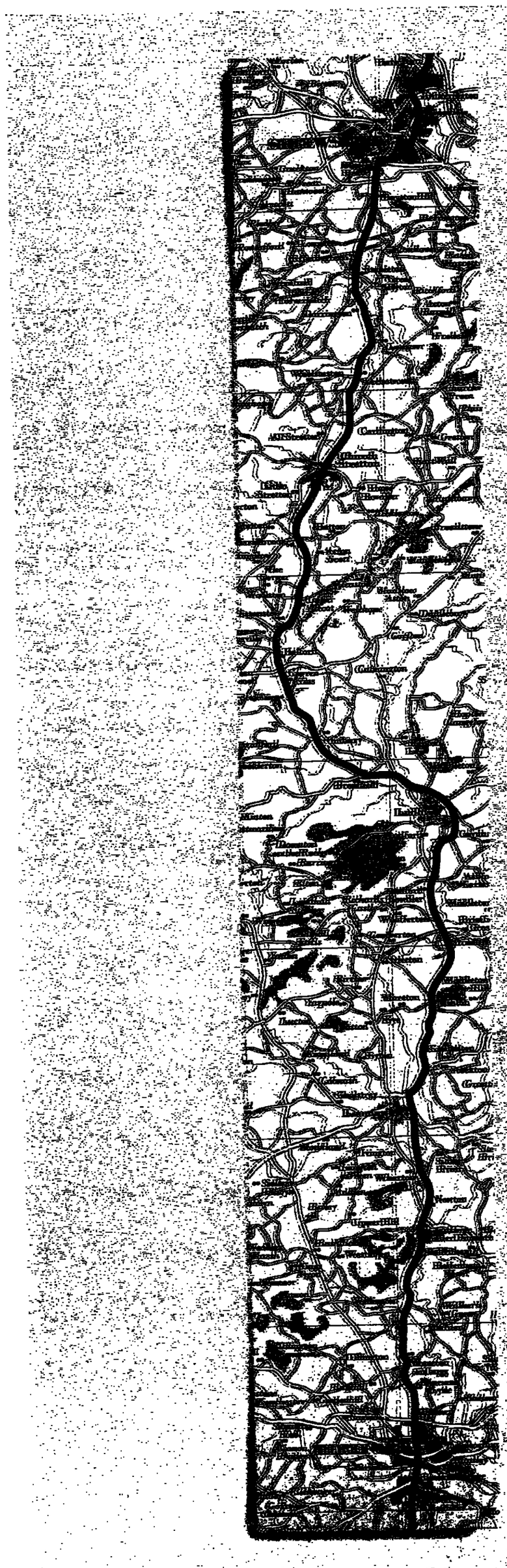
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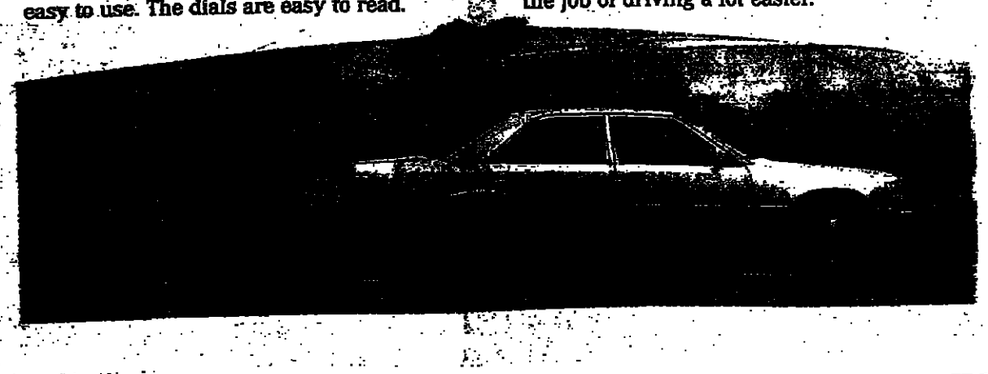
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Fears grow in South-East Asia

China increases military spending

FROM JAMES PRINGLE IN PEKING

CHINA yesterday announced an increase of 21 per cent in defence spending during the current year. The decision is likely to create fresh anxiety in South-East Asia, which is already nervous about recent Chinese moves over the disputed Spratly Islands in the potentially oil-rich South China Sea.

Despite the end of the Cold War, the proposed increase detailed by Liu Zhongli, the Finance Minister, in the second day of the annual meeting of China's largely rubber-stamp parliament, the National People's Congress, would mean that military spending in China has risen for six years in a row, diplomats in Peking said. In 1994, defence outlay rose by 22.4 per cent.

At the opening session of the congress on Sunday Li Peng, the Chinese Premier, told almost 3,000 delegates that China's 3 million-strong People's Liberation Army should "make further efforts to become a revolutionary, modern and regular army with increased combat effectiveness and defence capabilities".

Envoys in Peking say the PLA has been looking overseas — including Israel — for more advanced weapons systems.

Early last month, China caused alarm in the Philippines region when it was revealed that its navy had erected what seemed to be military structures on Mischief Reef off Palawan island, in the Philippines' zone of economic influence.

The move appeared to be a Chinese military attempt to reinforce territorial claims in the South China Sea, most of which it maintains is Chinese territory.

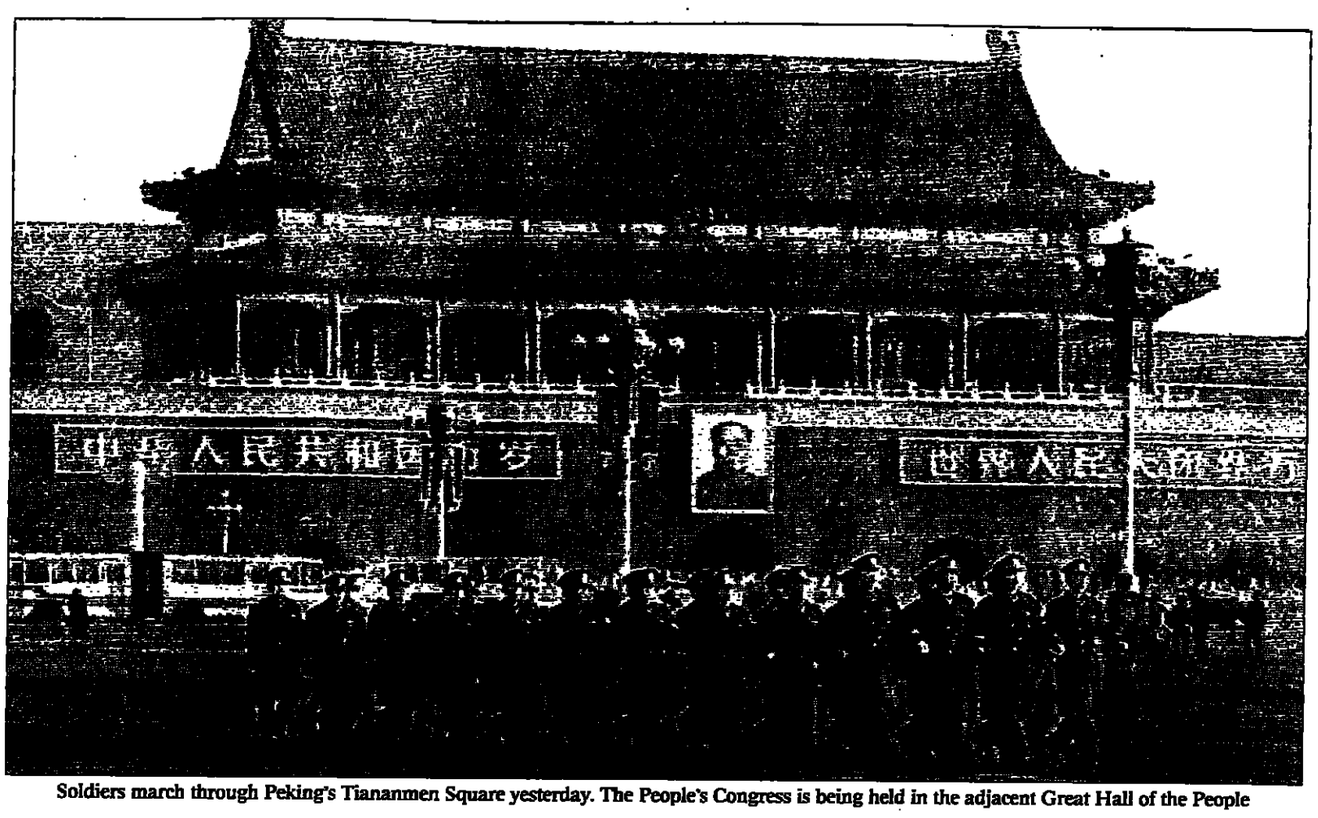
With energy needs increasing along with the population, oil supplies are falling behind in China, which two years ago became a net importer of petroleum for the first time. Peking, diplomats say, is likely to try to grab any significant oil discoveries in the South China Sea.

However, foreign envoys said last night that there appeared little cause for alarm in the Government's new budget proposals, because the planned increase in military spending to $7.5 billion (£4.6 billion) was less than the level of inflation.

The daily food allowance of Chinese soldiers was at present only about $0.54 cents, they said. The PLA, one diplomat noted, needed to take care of infrastructural matters like barracks. "They need a lot of funds to improve the living standards of their soldiers," said one Western military attaché. "We have to take that into account."

Diplomats say, however, that not all military spending is included in the budget. Sales of military goods and technology to other countries, and local sales of other products from army factories, could contribute to upgrading military hardware, though some of the funds received would go directly to factories making advanced weapons. Sales of these have caused concern in the American Administration.

The 1995 draft budget set out yesterday also included an increase in spending on agriculture. It has fallen behind during China's rush to modernisation which followed the free-market economic reforms introduced in the late Seventies by Deng Xiaoping, 90, China's ailing senior leader. Chinese officials say that faltering growth in agricultural production was a key contributor to China's unofficial — but realistic — inflation rate of 24.4 per cent last year. The national budget proposals also urged local authorities to try "every possible financial means" to increase investment in farm productivity.



Soldiers march through Peking's Tiananmen Square yesterday. The People's Congress is being held in the adjacent Great Hall of the People



President Jiang Zemin, left, confers with Premier Li Peng, centre, and Vice-Premier Zhu Rongji yesterday, the second day of parliamentary proceedings in Peking

Lawyer to sue Chinese police

BY JONATHAN MIRSKY
EAST ASIA EDITOR

A CHINESE former policeman is suing his ex colleagues for false arrest. In a country where the law has only recently permitted citizens to seek redress from the authorities, no policeman has done what Wang Jiaqi intends.

Mr Wang, 35, was a policeman for eight years in the northeastern city of Tianjin, before managing to enrol at Peking University, as a law student.

After graduating, he became involved with the free trade union movement, which the Communist party regards as the most dangerous dissident group, potentially representing 70 million low-paid industrial workers.

In the spring of 1994, Mr Wang claimed at Columbia University where he is a visiting scholar — he was "kidnapped" by the police and held without charge for 28 days. Taking advantage of some sympathy from his former colleagues, he escaped and made his way to New York.

"China's road to democracy is a long and difficult one," Mr Wang said. "After at least 100 years everyone needs a rest. But before we can have democracy, we need a system based on justice and law. That's why I'm going to sue the police." He said, however, that judicial independence was a basic legal problem.

Mr Wang is considering returning to China. Legal authorities in America and London fear he may be arrested and imprisoned, or deported. He knows the odds are against him, but remains determined. "In imperial times even the emperor sometimes admitted they made mistakes. In my case, that's what I want the state to do."

Democracy parties triumph in Hong Kong

FROM JONATHAN BRAUDE IN HONG KONG

PRO-DEMOCRACY parties swept to victory yesterday as the last results from the weekend's municipal council elections gave them 31 of Hong Kong's 59 constituencies against eight for the Democratic Alliance for the Betterment of Hong Kong, the main pro-Peking party.

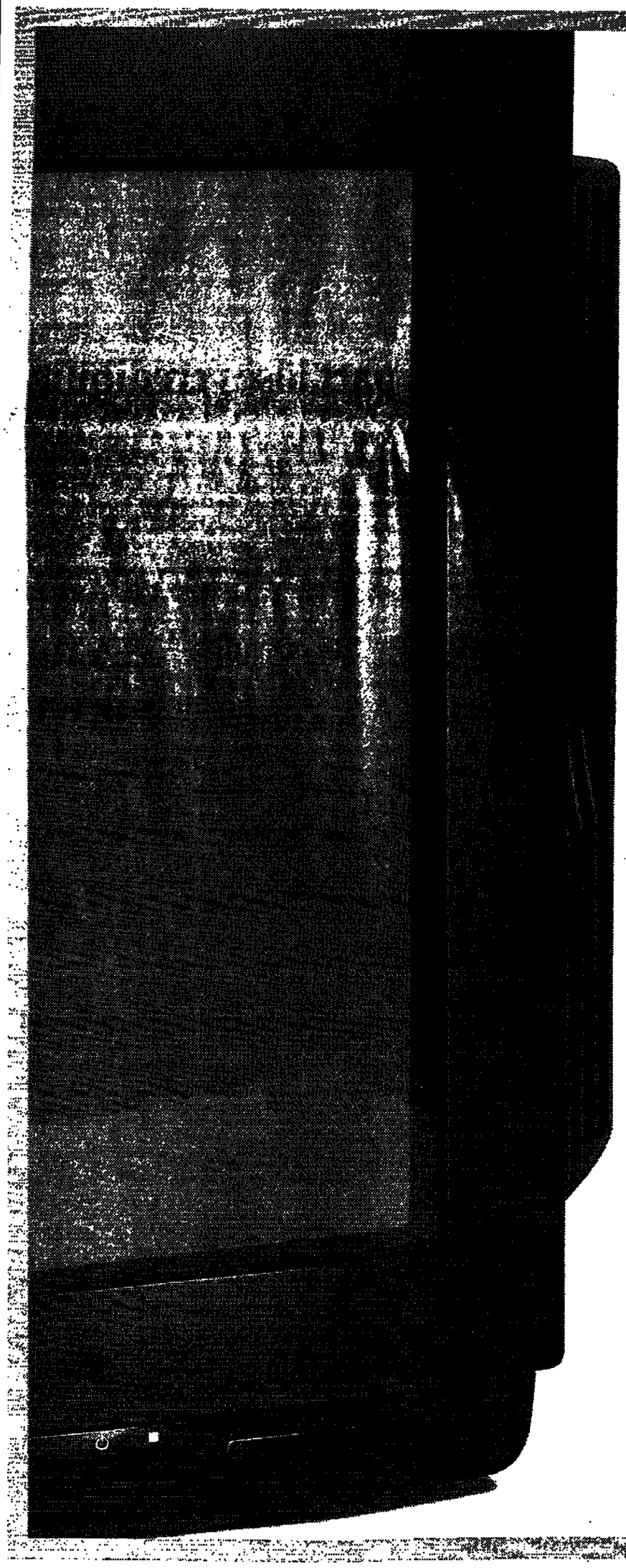
The poll was the last fully democratic election to be fought in the colony under British rule and only the second in Hong Kong's 153-year history. All the parties agreed it was an important training and testing ground for the more important, but not fully democratic, election for the Legislative Council in September.

But the future of democratic developments remains obscured by China's threat to dissolve all three tiers of elected government when it takes control of Hong Kong in July 1997. Peking's dispute with Britain over the attempts of Chris Patten, the Governor, to broaden the franchise for the Legislative Council has sharply divided opinion here between those favouring democracy over co-operation with China and those putting a premium on a good relationship with Peking.

The election claimed its most prominent victim in British-born Elsie Tu, 81, who had fought for democracy and the rights of the poor from the moment she arrived in Hong Kong as a missionary in 1951. She had joined the pro-China camp in outrage over Mr Patten's handling of the debate about constitutional reform.

She at first stood as an independent but, in a determined last stand against the democracy juggernaut, she accepted the backing of the pro-China groups in a bitter personal electoral battle against her former ally, Szeto Wah, a charismatic pro-democracy activist. Commenting on his victory over her, Mr Szeto said: "It shows China should listen more to the people of Hong Kong."

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WDA

THE WELSH ADVANTAGE.

Croatia offered trade package to toe line on peace

BY MICHAEL BINYON, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

Brussels: In the sharpest rebuke to Moscow yet over the Chechenia war, European Foreign Ministers yesterday put a wide-ranging trade agreement with Russia into cold storage (George Brock writes). The French, German and Spanish ministers will tell President Yeltsin this week that the deal will not be signed until the EU is convinced Russia is negotiating to end the war and allowing aid agencies to help half a million refugees.

EUROPEAN Union Foreign Ministers yesterday agreed in principle to conclude a new trade and co-operation agreement with Croatia, but said that negotiations could not begin until President Tudjman had agreed to renew the mandate of the United Nations troops in the former Yugoslav republic.

The Brussels meeting decided to step up diplomatic inducements to Croatia to prevent the withdrawal of 12,000 peacekeeping troops, who have been ordered to leave by the end of the month. The 15 ministers gave a warning that if the issue was not resolved, fighting could quickly erupt between Serbs and Croats all along the ceasefire lines.

Their fears coincided with a sombre warning in London yesterday by Irfan Ljubijankic, the Bosnian Foreign Minister, that all-out war could return to Bosnia because of the failure so far of peace proposals to make any headway. "As you know, the clock is ticking," he said at the start of a two-day visit to Britain. "We are dangerously close to resumption of all-out war. At the moment we have a kind of diplomatic vacuum."

Mr Ljubijankic will today meet Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary, and Douglas Hogg, the Minister of State, to discuss the impasse over the refusal by President Milosevic of Serbia to recognise Bosnia and Croatia. "The only language Milosevic understands is force," he said yesterday. He called for a reintroduction of UN sanctions on sport, communications and culture, and said only a lifting of the international arms embargo on Bosnia would have a decisive effect on Serbia.

The European pressure on Croatia came amid speculation that the United Nations is looking for a formula that would allow the bulk of the UN Protection Force to remain, with only a cosmetic adjustment to their mandate and strength. There has been talk of splitting Unprofor into separate forces for Croatia, Bosnia and Macedonia, and this might persuade President Tudjman to accept their continued presence.

Yasushi Akashi, the UN special envoy in former Yugoslavia, was angered by Dr Tudjman's order to leave, and gave a warning that if the UN withdrew, it would move its headquarters from Zagreb — with significant economic losses to the Croatian capital.

Mr Akashi yesterday also warned Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb leader, that a continued blockade of medical supplies in Bosnia could lead to indictments by the UN tribunal investigating war crimes in former Yugoslavia.

His warning, in a letter to Dr Karadzic, came as the Bosnian Serbs threatened to step up their blockade of three besieged Muslim enclaves in eastern Bosnia. The Bosnian Serb troops have prevented medical convoys reaching Srebrenica, Gorazde and Zepa to reinforce their demands for an increase in humanitarian aid to Serb-held territory.

UN military officials said yesterday that any withdrawal of UN troops from Bosnia would be a dangerous affair. The UN is preparing for an upsurge in fighting and is making contingency plans for the evacuation of its forces.

Today, the envoys of the five-nation Contact Group will meet again in Paris to try to avert a new war. At their previous meeting last Thursday, also in Paris, they made scant progress in their search for a way to persuade President Milosevic to back their plan for peace.

The Contact Group — made up of the United States, Russia, Britain, France and Germany — fear that fresh fighting in Bosnia once the truce, brokered by former Jimmy Carter, the former US President, last December, expires on May 1. "It's a question of getting all hands on deck," a British official said. He added that Richard Holbrooke, the US Assistant Secretary of State, was taking a "robust message" to Dr Tudjman in Zagreb in another effort to persuade him to revoke his decision.



A Sudanese delegate applauds at the opening ceremony of the Copenhagen summit, attended by 120 world leaders and 15000 delegates

UN urges leaders to tackle social injustice

BY CHRISTOPHER FOLLETT IN COPENHAGEN AND LUCY BERRINGTON

WORLD DEVELOPMENT SUMMIT

THE United Nations yesterday made an impassioned call to world leaders to act urgently against poverty and social injustice.

Boutros Boutros Ghali, the Secretary-General, opening the Summit for Social Development in Copenhagen, said 1.3 billion people suffered from grinding poverty as a direct result of war and it was in the interests of their governments to care for them.

"We know today that most of the armed conflicts, with which the United Nations is faced, are domestic. We also know that most of them have evident social and economic causes." He added: "We must state yet again the clear link between the promotion of development and the preservation of peace."

The summit, involving about 120 world leaders and more than 15,000 delegates from 180 countries, has set itself lofty goals, such as eradicating world poverty and social injustice, combating unemployment and establishing social stability in the post-Cold War age. Dr Boutros Ghali said that 1.5 billion people did not have access to basic health services, and that 70 per cent of the abject poor came from the ranks of women.

"The first step in the fight against social alienation must be directed against greed and indifference," he said. "Tolerance, solidarity and action are needed to overcome the social discrimination which exists throughout the world."

An opinion poll published in the Danish daily newspaper *Politiken* showed that three out of four Danes doubted that the week-long summit would achieve tangible results in bridging the gap between the world's haves and have-nots.

But Poul Nyrup Rasmussen the Danish Prime Minister, called the meeting "a summit of hope" and dismissed criticism that it was just another UN talk-shop. "We are discussing real problems which concern all people," he said in his welcoming speech. Denmark is footing the £18 million summit bill.

Juan Somavia, the main organiser of the summit, also hit back at critics who alleged that the agenda was so ambitious that it would render it impotent. Señor Somavia, who is Chile's permanent representative to the UN, said: "In this summit, we are opening up issues that have never been discussed at all by heads of state. This would have been impossible during the Cold War, when all we got was an ideological debate between competing social systems."

Señor Somavia had proposed the summit in 1991 when he was chairman of the UN's social committee. He said government leaders had been so mesmerised by the Cold War that they were unprepared for what followed, "an unexpectedly cold peace marked by increased poverty, unemployment and social fragmentation".

He aid: "The main message of the summit is the high political cost of inaction. We have o put people back into the piture. Social expenditure must increasingly be seen as socia investment."

Señor Somavia envisaged the cost of new social policies being partly met by the reallocation of funds away from projects, such as infrastructure, that could be left to market forces. In addition, the UN is calling on financiers to follow the example of the Inter-American Development Bank, which has assigned 50 per cent of its loans to social projects.

Mafia 'a threat to Russia'

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW

RUSSIA'S Security Council warned yesterday that organised crime had grown so strong that it posed a real threat to national security.

In a meeting chaired by President Yeltsin, ministers and advisers in charge of law enforcement agencies were reprimanded for failing to tackle what many regard as the most serious challenge to Russia's democratic institutions and economic reforms.

"Criminals going unpunished and the lack of tangible results from the battle against organised crime are discrediting state powers," Interfax reported sources as saying. "As a result they are threatening the security of Russia."

Russia's criminal gangs have dominated public attention since last week's assassination of Vladislav Listyev, the television host shot dead outside his apartment in a suspected contract killing over television advertising fees.

His death prompted calls for a crackdown on organised crime and it seems likely that the authorities will be granted greater powers to monitor and detain suspects and seize their property.

However, many Russians were sceptical, particularly since similar promises were made last year. Viktor Yerin, the Interior Minister, and Sergei Stepashin, head of counter-intelligence, and Aleksei Ilyushenko, the acting Prosecutor-General — who were criticised by fellow ministers yesterday — have been accused regularly of gross incompetence.

The only steps taken since the murder have been the dismissals of Gennadi Ponomaryov, the prosecutor, and Vladimir Pankratov, the police chief. However, many fear the sackings have more to do with a power struggle between the Kremlin and Yuri Luzhkov, Moscow's Mayor.

Climate pact loses credibility as temperature rises

BY NICK NUTTALL ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT

THE climate change convention, agreed by 166 nations in an attempt to tackle gobal warming, has become an international farce with few countries taking its aims seriously, according to the World Watch Institute, a Washington-based think-tank.

The institute made its claim as nations prepare to meet in Berlin this month to discuss further cuts in emissions of carbon dioxide, the gas linked to global warming. It also follows devastating floods in Europe, rising world temperatures and the disintegration of Antarctic ice sheets, which observers believe may be signs of the Earth heating up.

Tomorrow, the Government is expected to publish figures claiming that Britain will meet its emission targets by 2000, despite the fact that tactics to control emissions have failed.

Critics claim that the Government forecasts are farcical and based on figures prepared by the Department of Trade and Industry that are questionable. Britain has promised to stabilise emissions at 1990 levels by 2000. In 1989 this represented a 21 per cent reduction, but in 1992 this was revised to 6 per cent. The latest estimate will claim no more action is needed.

Andrew Warren, of the Association for the Conservation of Energy, said: "From talk about tough changes in lifestyles and energy use, they are suddenly turning around and saying 'We have solved it'. It is not logical."

The Word Watch Institute claims that nearly all the nations which signed the convention in Rio de Janeiro three years ago have been backpedalling. It claims that America, which has emissions five times the per capita world level, will miss the targets.

Third World countries have resisted even symbolic measures since they give low piority to climate issues. But their emissons are increasing at more than five tmes the rate of industrial countries and last year China was the second in emissions, behind America.



Staid Swiss roll out the barrel

With lamps attached to their heads and accompanied by flute players, almost 100,000 Swiss took to the streets to celebrate the Basle carnival in complete darkness at 4am yesterday (Sharmila Devi writes). The event, known as "Morgestraich", literally morning joke, started a three-day spring festival when bars stay open all night and revellers take to the streets at all hours while business shuts down in the otherwise staid town. The event is the culmination of year-long preparations for the moment when, in the early hours, street lights are extinguished and participants wearing hand-made costumes and masks play music and bang drums as they march through the town chasing away evil spirits. The festival is one of many hosted by Basle since the city was granted a licence to stage trade fairs in 1471. It also serves as an excuse for local politics. This year included protests against the imposition of Vat on items including restaurant meals.

Barre pulls out of race for Elysée

FROM ADAM SAGE IN PARIS

RAYMOND BARRE, France's former centrist Prime Minister, yesterday ruled out standing for the presidency, thus paving the way for his mentor, Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, to enter the race.

However, if M Giscard d'Estaing is greatly tempted to run, his difficulties were exposed by M Barre's announcement.

"The conditions do not appear at the moment to be right for implementing the policies that I believe necessary," said the man who served as M Giscard d'Estaing's Prime Minister between 1976 and 1981.

As commentators pointed out, the same logic applies to the former President.

The two men have been playing cat-and-mouse with the French electorate since Christmas, but yesterday in stepping aside, M Barre said: "I do not want to complicate a complex and confused political situation."

CIA agents in France were 'more Clouseau than Bond'

FROM ADAM SAGE IN PARIS

THE CIA emerges as hamfisted and ill-informed according to a leaked account of its vain attempts to spy in Paris.

American agents asked basic questions, fell into obvious traps and committed a series of gaffes as they sought access to the workings of the French Government, according to the newspaper, *Le Figaro*.

The disclosures come a fortnight after Paris confirmed that five alleged US spies had been asked to leave France, sparking a diplomatic crisis between the two countries. According to the DST, the French counter-espionage agency, the CIA wanted information on the agricultural and cultural issues that dominated arguments between France and the US during the 1993 General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade negotiations.

But the American operation appears to have owed more to Inspector Clouseau than James Bond. One of the CIA agents, named as Mary-Ann Baumgartner, thought she had a direct line to the French state when she made friends with "Henri", an adviser to Edouard Balladur, the Prime Minister. In fact, Henri had been alerted to Mrs Baumgartner's role by the French Interior Ministry and told to act as bait.

Resigning as M Balladur's adviser just 12 days after his appointment in April 1993, Henri explained to Mrs Baumgartner that he had decided to concentrate on his own political career. She, apparently, believed his story and asked him to meet the "head of the Minnesota cereal lobby" in a hotel near Charles de Gaulle airport. Henri obliged, answered the "lobbyist's" questions and was given 5,000 francs (about £600).

There were four more interviews between Henri and the man from Minnesota, named as Pastor, who took to arriving with a questionnaire.

Each time, Henri filled in the answers — which he gleaned from the French press or made up, *Le Figaro* says.

In January last year, Pastor introduced Henri to a woman described as "the big boss".

She earned a measure of respect from her French counterparts, making it difficult for them to photograph her and revealing little about herself.

Nevertheless, she was identified as a "high-ranking" CIA analyst. Among other things, she asked Henri why France was so worked up about cultural issues when "a majority of films on French television are American", - a curious question from a Minnesotan agricultural lobbyist.

Henri was pulled out of his counter espionage role at that stage; yet, *Le Figaro* says ,it is not clear why this should be made public 13 months later.

The US administration is convinced that the disclosures were to distract attention from the difficulties which M Balladur is encountering in his Presidential campaign. If so, the attempted manipulation was almost as incompetent as the originial CIA operation.



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هكذا من الأصل

France angers West by opening mission in Iraq

BY MICHAEL BINYON, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

FRANCE yesterday opened a diplomatic mission in Iraq as Britain and other Western Governments were considering a possible United Nations resolution that would facilitate the sale of Iraqi oil to raise money for humanitarian relief.

Iraqi officials clapped and cheered at a reception in the old French Embassy where four French diplomats welcomed a senior Iraqi official at the opening of the French interests section. Jean-François Nodinot, the head of the diplomatic delegation, told Abduljaber al-Douri, the under-secretary at the Iraqi Foreign Ministry, that the reopening of the mission, under the Romanian flag, signalled "a new stage in the history of relations between Iraq and France".

The French initiative has angered France's Western allies. The Foreign Office refused to comment yesterday, but drew attention to a tart statement last month when it said that this was not the moment to relax the pressure on Saddam Hussein. Washington is even more annoyed: Madeleine Albright, the American Ambassador to the UN, has just completed a tour of seven Security Council members to galvanise support for Washington's tough line against any relaxation of sanctions against Iraq.

Britain has been Washington's strongest supporter. But diplomatic sources say that there is a growing feeling among the Western allies that the conditions attached to the 1991 Security Council resolution, allowing the limited sale of oil, should be relaxed to persuade Saddam to resume oil exports. He has refused to do so, denouncing the conditions attached to oil sales as an unacceptable infringement of Iraqi sovereignty.

The resolution allows Baghdad to sell $1.6 billion (£987 million) in oil, with some of the profits being impounded to pay for the UN weapons inspection teams and the rest being set aside as reparations to Kuwait and the victims of the Gulf War. Iraq would be allowed to keep $1 billion to buy food, medicines and humanitarian aid.

The allies are increasingly angered by Saddam's refusal to agree to these conditions. Not only does he present to the Arab world the starvation and plight of Iraqi children as a direct result of Western sanctions; but without any oil income, there is no money that the UN can use to pay for its expensive monitoring programme and the aid programme for the Kurds.

Western allies are considering relaxing the condition that particularly angered Baghdad — the distribution of food and medicines inside Iraq by UN officials to ensure vital supplies went to the general population and not to the army.

Whitehall officials yesterday spoke of "repackaging" Security Council resolutions to allow limited oil sales, and informal discussions have been held in New York between Iraqi and Western diplomats.

This proposal could blunt the calls by France and Russia for an immediate lifting of sanctions. Both countries have argued that Iraq has fulfilled the conditions laid down by the UN on scrapping weapons of mass destruction, and should not be cut off from the world indefinitely.

Iraq made much of the French decision to re-establish a presence in Baghdad. Mr Douri said his Government sought to "restore relations to their former level".

☐ **Baghdad:** Muhammad Said al-Sahhaf, the Iraqi Foreign Minister, embarked yesterday on a tour of UN Security Council member states, starting with Nigeria, to muster support for lifting the embargo.

Mr Douri said that the minister would visit Lagos, and non-member states, but he did not name the countries. "Iraq will carry on its diplomatic offensive in both the East and the West . . . and will knock on all doors to break the embargo," he said, adding that support was growing.

On Saturday, Tariq Aziz, the Deputy Prime Minister, ruled out hope that the Security Council would ease the four-year-old sanctions at its next review. He said that the UN would wait for a report on Iraq's progress on disarmament, due on April 10. *(AFP)*

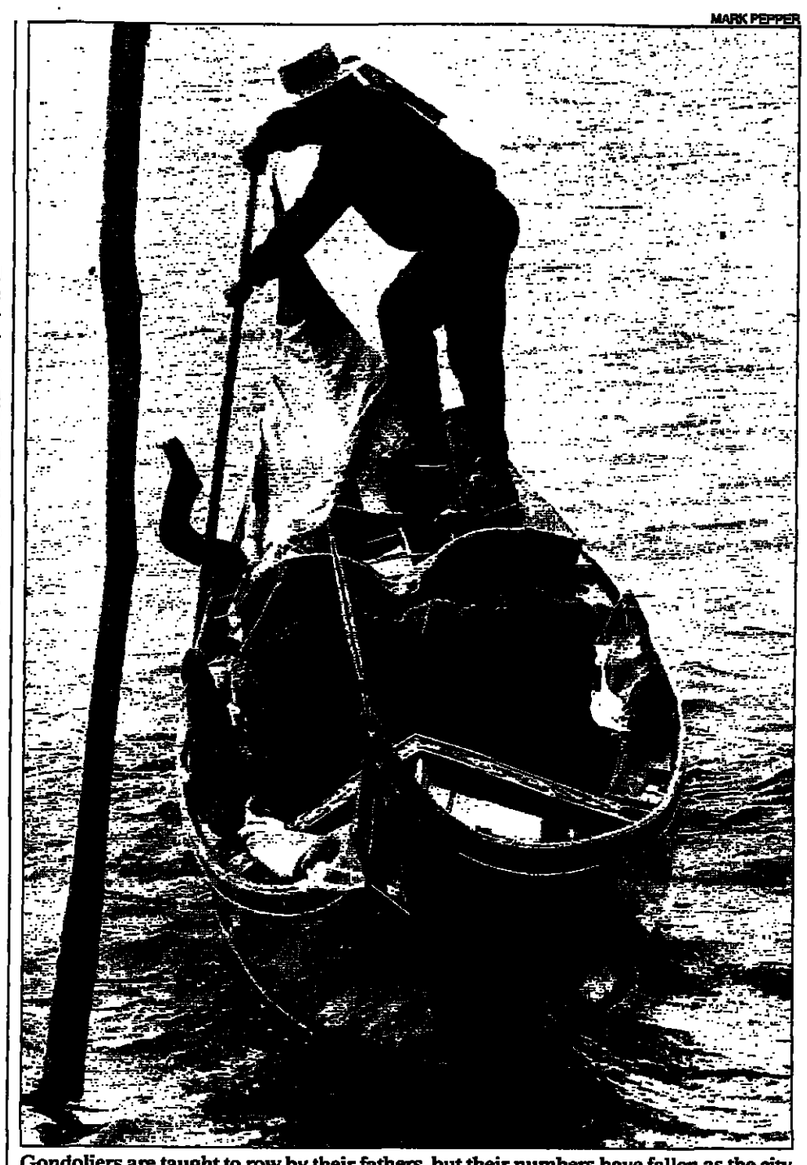
Talks focus on fate of Palestinian refugees

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

ISRAELI and Arab leaders will today discuss for the first time one of the most explosive issues in the fragile Middle East peace process — the future of large numbers of Palestinian refugees displaced during the 1967 Six Day War, and their families.

Differences on the issue are formidable. Arabs say the future of about 800,000 people is at stake. Israel puts the number at no higher than 200,000, and says no decision has yet been taken on their right to return to what is now the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Shimon Peres, the Israeli Foreign Minister, will attend the talks in the Jordanian capital, Amman. Nabil Shaath, a member of the new Palestinian Authority, and the Foreign Ministers of Egypt and Jordan, will also be present.



MARK PEPPER

Gondoliers are taught to row by their fathers, but their numbers have fallen as the city has become more expensive and many young men have left Venice for the mainland

Venice puts new gondoliers to test

FROM SARAH CUNNINGHAM IN ROME

THE next generation of Venetian gondoliers, who until now have needed only a health certificate, a clean police record and the ability to row in order to ply their trade, will soon need a special driving licence.

Aspiring gondoliers must apply by Friday for places on the first course starting at the end of the month. Candidates will study topics from navigation to the history of Venice and foreign languages.

The learned gondoliers will also have 30 hours learning the difficult Venetian rowing technique. At the end of the course they will have to take both written and practical tests.

Maura Mingardi, secretary of the Gondoliers' Association, said that the introduction of licences followed a national law tightening up rules for all public transport operators. She said that the association saw it as a chance to improve the image of the gondoliers, who will become fully fledged guides.

"It is a chance for us to introduce new ideas," she said. All the students, who will be taught at the city's Barbarigo Technical School, would study two languages.

Traditionally, gondoliers have learned from their fathers. But the population has fallen as the city has become more expensive, and many young men have left.

Gingrich's lesbian half-sister tackles 'intolerant' Right

FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

CANDACE Gingrich, the lesbian half-sister of Speaker Newt, took the gay cause to the very heart of Capitol Hill yesterday, pitting herself against the most radical members of her brother's Republican leadership.

Ms Gingrich, a 28-year-old computer technician from Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, is spearheading a lobbying campaign to preserve money for Aids programmes on behalf of the Human Rights Campaign Fund, America's largest gay and lesbian political group. The fund is also seeking legislation to protect homosexuals from discrimination in the workplace, including the military, and what it calls "hate legislation" from Jesse Helms, the North Carolina senator, and other homophobic Republicans, notably from the Christian Right.



Candace Gingrich: aims to preserve Aids budget

The younger Gingrich has made no plans to visit her relative — they have the same biological mother — and, indeed, said she had not discussed her homosexuality with him. "We don't talk that much anyhow," Ms Gingrich said. "I don't know if he's spoken with my mom about it." Asked if her half-brother was anti-gay, she said no, "just maybe uninformed".

She first discussed her sexuality eight years ago and was nationally "outed" when Newt Gingrich was elected to the most powerful position in the Capitol. According to a gay Washington newspaper, Mr Gingrich has consistently voted against gay issues. In an interview with the *Blade* last November, he promoted tolerance towards homosexuality, but added: "It is madness to pretend that families are anything other than heterosexual couples."

His sister said such "tolerance" was not enough and accused the Speaker of discrimination. "For him to say we should be tolerated still allows for us to be fired merely for being gay or lesbian, and that's not tolerance, that's discrimination," she told *The New York Times*. "I want him to understand that discrimination is wrong." She emphasised that they were not seeking special treatment, but that Americans ought to realise that they were being discriminated against every day.

Steve Gunderson, a gay Republican representative from Wisconsin, said Mr Gingrich had been personally supportive. "Newt is much more conservative than I am," he said. "I am going to be much more comfortable with government solutions than he is. That doesn't mean he is anti-gay." He added that House leaders had assured him that most Aids programmes would be approved again in the coming year.

Ms Gingrich said her elder sibling was more concerned about her being a Democrat who supports abortion and gun control than her status as a lesbian. On that basis, the fund chose her as a chief lobbyist this week in the hope that her high profile might win support in Congress for measures to shield Aids funds from any budget cuts.

While Mr Gingrich is unlikely to attack his half-sister, it remains to be seen whether the Republicans can maintain their silence on one of several social issues that could divide the party. Dick Armey, co-author of Mr Gingrich's *Contract with America*, publicly apologised recently after referring to Barney Frank, the outspoken gay Democrat, as "Barney Fag" — a sign that anti-gay sentiments are barely beneath the surface.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Turkey aid deal hinges on rights

Brussels: As a trade and aid deal was agreed last night, EU Ministers warned Turkey that ties will only develop if its human rights record improves (George Brock writes).

The agreement has yet to be cleared by the European Parliament, where MEPs have threatened to block it.

Half apology

Johannesburg: Winnie Mandela, estranged wife of the South African President, has written to him complaining that her apology for criticising the Government was written by "you to yourself".

Angolans drown

Luanda: At least 82 Angolans, including many women and children, were drowned and more than 100 were missing after a coaster ran aground about 160 miles south of here. About 45 survived. *(Reuter)*

Mafia killings

Catania: A gunman shot dead three men near the Sicilian town of Catania in a Mafia ambush, police said. The shootings, before witnesses, were in the suburb of Gravina di Catania. *(Reuter)*

Coup foiled

Lagos: An army plot to topple General Sani Abacha, the Nigerian military ruler, has been uncovered and at least 150 officers are being questioned, local magazines have reported. *(Reuter)*

Saving turtles

Wellington: Twenty-six Pacific nations launched a campaign to save the marine turtle from extinction, calling for a ban on the sale of its meat, oil and shell. Six species are endangered. *(Reuter)*

Speaker silenced

Seoul: South Korean opposition MPs barricaded the National Assembly Speaker and his deputy in their homes to prevent the ruling party from pushing through changes to electoral law. *(AFP)*

Britain in clash over Unicef

FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

BRITAIN and other members of the European Union are fiercely at odds with the United States over who should be the next director of Unicef, the United Nations Children's Fund.

The post has been held by an American since the agency was founded in 1946, and the Clinton Administration had assumed that the tradition would continue after the death in January of James Grant. He had overseen Unicef's programmes to help children in 138 countries for the past 14 years.

Washington's candidate to succeed him is William Foege, a distinguished epidemiologist who was a key figure in the global eradication of smallpox. He has done extensive work in helping poor countries to fight polio and promote immunisation. But Britain has weighed in on behalf of Richard Jolly, 60, a British economist who has been an executive at Unicef since 1982, and is now the acting director.

However, not all of Europe is backing Britain's choice. The Nordic countries support Elisabeth Rehn, a former Finnish Defence Minister, and long-time proponent of Unicef. Belgium's nominee is Anne-Marie Lizin, a member of the Belgian and European parliaments and vice-president of the Socialist International.

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Breast cancer patients have a right to the most advanced therapy, says **Gwyneth Vorhaus**

Why did I have to battle for the treatment that I need?

I developed breast cancer in September 1989, aged 43, and metastatic spread in September 1993. I have just started high-dose chemotherapy with stem cell treatment (HDSC) which, if I had known about it earlier, might have saved my life. Now the prognosis is uncertain.

After surgery, radiotherapy and chemotherapy treatment at a specialist hospital, I went for six-monthly routine checks there. In September 1993 I developed a persistent cough, a typical symptom of metastatic spread to the lung, though I did not know it. I reported this symptom at my check-up but it was not investigated.

By Christmas I had trouble swallowing and was breathless. Again, the hospital dismissed this as a virus or infection, making no investigation. I was put on several courses of antibiotics, none of which had any effect. Finally I saw a chest specialist privately because I was so desperate — he immediately diagnosed secondaries.

Naturally I was upset that the hospital had left my secondary symptoms to develop for seven months without treatment and wanted to make sure I received speedy and appropriate treatment. So in March 1994 I submitted to a consultant at the hospital a list of written questions. (Questions had so often been left unanswered by previous doctors.)

I wanted to know about alternative treatments to conventional chemotherapy and especially about high-dose chemotherapy with stem cell treatment. I was told it was not appropriate for breast cancer (it is widely used for leukaemia). Yet I was to discover that HDSC has been used in America for more than ten years for breast cancer, is available in over 120 centres and the American National Cancer Institute considers it the preferred treatment in some cases.

Breast cancer that has spread to other organs or to the bones is incurable using the standard treatment available in Britain. The medical profession's policy, to judge by the hospital's practice in my case, seems to be to wait for symptoms of cancer spread to develop and then just treat them as best they can to give a woman a relatively pain-free existence until her inevitable death.

I believe that this was why NHS money was used to treat the secondaries in my lung, but why I was refused a bone scan when I asked for one. (Later, when I went elsewhere to get HDSC, the cancer was found to have spread to the bone.)

> I found American doctors far more helpful than the British

After chemotherapy for my lung, which was successful, my treatment at the specialist hospital came to an end. I had not, however, given up on finding out about HDSC. Using my experience as a researcher, I pursued every possible avenue. I had to get access to American databases and to ask American hospitals to send me their figures on numbers treated, mortality rates, remission rates, and so on. While I found American doctors generally helpful and open about information, I found the reverse in Britain. I was told HDSC did not exist (by hospital doctors); that it was not applicable to breast cancer patients (by BACUP, the British Association of Cancer United Patients) and that the American figures were inflated (by a respected British oncology professor).



Pioneer: Dr Len Price

HDSC is still officially experimental in America, but it has been used for over ten years and is offered by more than 120 centres, including the world leaders in the treatment of breast cancer. And following a successful court case, American insurance companies must now pay out for it. For women with primary breast cancer it offers a much greater chance of a cancer-free future.

For women with secondaries — if not too advanced and if not too many standard treatments of conventional chemotherapy have been given — it offers a 20 per cent chance of remission for many years (the upper limit not yet being known) and a 40 per cent chance of a longer remission than the two-year median offered by all other known treatments. The mortality risk from the treatment is below 5 per cent with modern methods of administration.

It is a lot more expensive to give women repeated courses of conventional chemotherapy and radiation treatment designed temporarily to relieve symptoms, yet unable to cure, than it is to use a high-dose therapy that in at least 20 per cent of cases will give long-term cancer-free survival and in other cases prolonged remissions.

Until there is a fundamental reversal of the blinkered and complacent attitude of British cancer specialists, we will trail far behind other countries in the development of treatment and in the mortality rates of women.

As Dr Abi Berger reported in *The Times* on September 6, two British trials of HDSC finally began last autumn, co-ordinated by Dr Bob Leonard of the Western General Hospital in Edinburgh. These involve between 12 and 15 hospitals and hope to recruit around 1,000 women with a poor prognosis, but in whom the disease has not spread. Now the Royal Marsden Hospital is considering whether to set up a trial for the women in whom the disease has spread.

For my treatment I had to turn to Dr Len Price at the London Clinic, who is one of the few British oncologists at present willing to treat women whose breast cancer has spread; happily my local health authority has now agreed to pay for it.

Under Dr Price's care I have now completed the induction treatments — three lots of chemotherapy every three weeks, and one removal of stem cells. More stem cells will be removed next week, and on March 23 I will receive the first high-dose chemotherapy, which will take three days to administer. Two weeks' isolation follows after the stem cells have been reintroduced. The side-effects will be very severe, but not permanent.

The outcome is uncertain, but women with secondaries have nothing to lose — our survival rate is zero and the time period left to us is a median two years from start of symptoms. I welcome the 20 per cent chance of a cancer-free survival that would allow me time to be a mother to my two children.

● *Dr Len Price's work features in* Modern Times: Harley Street, *on BBC2 tomorrow at 8.30pm.*



Dr Gwyneth Vorhaus: she used her experience in research to hunt down information

WHAT IS HDSC?

CONVENTIONAL chemotherapy is limited by the potentially fatal side-effect of destroying the patient's bone marrow. Doctors have been using very high dose chemotherapy followed by a bone marrow transplant to rescue the damaged bone marrow, and HDSC is a development of this.

Instead of having to take bone marrow from the bone itself patients are given a cocktail of drugs and growth factors which "draw" stem cells out of the bone marrow into the blood, where they are harvested and frozen. Higher doses of chemotherapy than normal can then be given, stem cells reintroduced, and the patient is isolated for two weeks.

Treatment works best on patients who have responded well to conventional chemotherapy, who have a low cancer mass, no bone marrow or central nervous system involvement, and who are relatively strong. It causes severe side-effects during treatment and infections are common for six months afterwards. The process may be repeated.

Drivers who nod off in the fast lane

Abnormal sleep patterns lie behind many road accidents

A skinhead found a simple way to enjoy himself at the M25 service station before the Dartford Tunnel last Friday. The youth went from car to car and when he found one in which the driver was sleeping, banged on the bonnet to wake the startled occupant and then loped off, grinning, to find another victim.

On the same day the *British Medical Journal* published a report by Professor Jim Horne and Ms Louise Reyner of the Sleep Research Laboratory at Loughborough University on the number of road accidents which can be attributed to the driver dropping off to sleep.

Two surveys were undertaken: a review of accidents between 1987 and 1992 on all roads in the South West of England, and a study of accidents on Midland motorways for three separate months in 1991, 1992 and 1994. Sixteen per cent of the accidents in the South West and 20 per cent of the motorway accidents were related to a driver falling asleep.



DR THOMAS STUTTAFORD

There are difficulties in being certain that sleepiness was the cause, but strict criteria were drawn up which made it the most likely reason for the driver's momentary lapse of attention, which often has more catastrophic effects than other causes of road traffic accidents. So strict were the guidelines that these percentages probably underestimate the problem. The authors, for instance, have excluded cases in which there was a burst tyre, although in many cases the tyre must have burst when the car hit the kerb and was therefore a result, not a cause, of the accident.

The peak times for accidents coincide with the sleepy times of the day as determined by the normal circadian rhythm. Sitting in the driver's seat does not counteract the natural tendency to sleep between 2am and 7am, and at siesta time in mid-afternoon — two periods of the day when sleep-related accidents are most likely to occur.

Men seem to fall asleep more readily than women, and younger men more often than older ones. These statistics may be related in part to different driving patterns between men and women and youth and age, but even when not driving it is known that older people are less likely to experience extreme sleepiness in the early hours.

The monotony of driving, particularly motorway driving, has always been known to induce sleepiness in people with an abnormal sleep pattern. Those drivers who have been diagnosed as actually having narcolepsy have to inform the driving licence centre at Swansea of this.

In practice it is often difficult to differentiate between people who have an abnormal desire to fall asleep, and clinical narcolepsy. Narcolepsy is characterised by attacks of overwhelming sleepiness; cataplexy, the sudden loss of muscle tone and hence collapse; sleep paralysis, the inability to move when half asleep; and hypnagogic phenomena, dreaming while awake. There are also changes in the brain waves of patients with narcolepsy when sleeping. But the usual indicator is the bizarre pattern of sleep in afflicted patients.

Narcolepsy is particularly troublesome when circumstances are either very boring — such as a tedious television play — or very exciting. Narcoleptics can fall asleep, even into their soup, if the conversation with their dining companions is excessively stimulating, or their companionship very exciting; they can nod off during intercourse or during an athletics championship; whereas at the other extreme they can cause traffic accidents while driving, or offence by sleeping during lectures or debates.

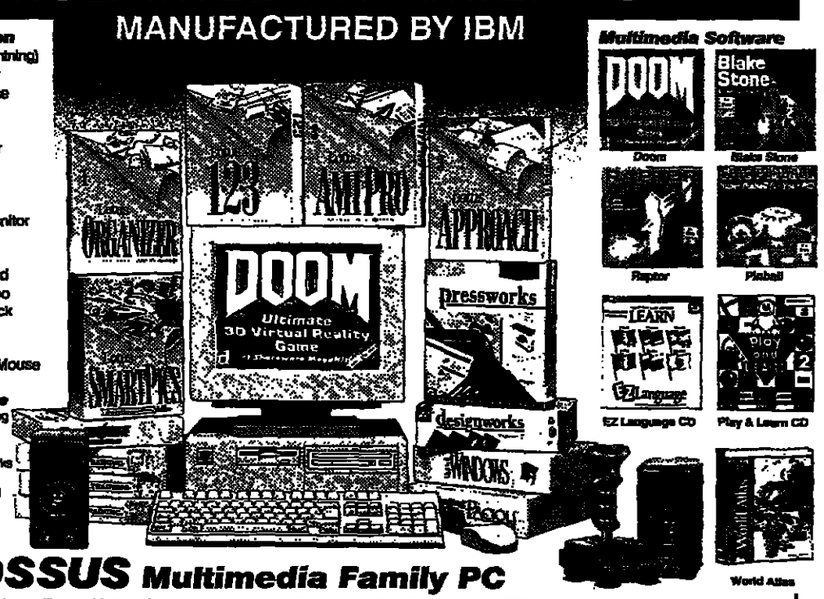
Sleep apnoea — crescendos of snoring interspersed with an absence of breathing — during the night results in a disturbed sleep pattern and tiredness next day with a tendency to drop off to sleep during the afternoon.

Whatever the cause of the extreme sleepiness, a quick nap will work wonders and leave the driver refreshed, usually for several hours. The carpark skinhead could have caused an accident or two last week.

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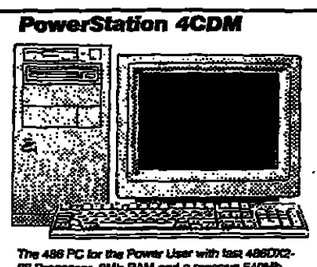
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Margot Norman on a heroic struggle for the truth behind a disaster



ASHLEY COOMBES/NEWSTEAM

Marion Bayliss with a portrait of her husband, Curly, the chief officer, who was lost with the *Derbyshire* 15 years ago — now Lord Donaldson is to investigate

A fighter for those in peril on the sea

When the *MV Derbyshire* went down 15 years ago with all 44 crew in a typhoon off the south coast of Japan, it was Britain's biggest single shipping loss. The *Derbyshire*, a bulk carrier built by Swan Hunter on Tyneside, was only four years old, a well-maintained, expertly-crewed monster, 1,000ft long and the width of a motorway. Officially, we still do not know why she went down.

What we do know is that bulk carriers keep on going down at a terrifying rate. Nineteen of them sank last year. They account for nearly 60 per cent of total shipping losses, though they comprise only 7 per cent of the total fleet. Since 1971, more than 2,000 men have been lost on them.

How many of those lives could have been saved if the *Derbyshire* disaster had been more thoroughly investigated? This is the thought that haunts Marion Bayliss, whose black-bearded husband Curly was the ship's chief officer. He had given in his notice, and after the voyage the couple were going to run a children's home together. "At last!" she sighed, upon hearing yesterday that the Government has appointed Lord Donaldson to head an independent inquiry into what happened.

"All I want is for everybody to sit down and be honest," she said. "Then, perhaps even this tragedy will have a positive outcome for the future, and Curly and all the others will not have died in vain."

Mrs Bayliss believes that Lord Donaldson will find serious fault with the way the *Derbyshire* and four of the other five ships in her class were designed and built. In January, John Jubb, a respected former President of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers, gave a lecture entitled *Structural Failures of Bulk Carriers* in which he accused his whole profession of failing in its duty of safety. Even the Department of Transport's own investigators drafted a report ten years ago blaming "total structural failure" — cracks in the structure that would have snapped the ship in two — for the loss of the *Derbyshire*. Their conclusion was mysteriously expunged from the final, inconclusive report.

This official obfuscation has kept Mrs Bayliss angry ever since. Her Christian faith and her job as a nursing sister in charge of intensive care for sick babies saved her from going mad as her teenage children reacted, almost inevitably, to their father's death by getting into trouble.

Then, in 1986, Radio 4 did a programme on the disaster. Mrs Bayliss joined the families of other survivors in a campaign to get the investigation reopened. When a sister ship, the *Kowloon Bridge*, broke up in stormy weather in Bantry Bay, Ireland, the authorities agreed to a formal investigation into the *Derbyshire*.

Mrs Bayliss spent as much time as she could during the winter of 1987 sitting in Church House, Westminster, listening to the evidence. The experience made her even angrier.

"I felt the Wreck Commissioner had made his mind up from the beginning. He wouldn't allow evidence from a highly reputable firm of naval architects who said there were faults in the design and building of these ships; he simply refused to look at previous reports. We wanted the plans for the *Derbyshire*, but they said they had been lost. They even said the Department of Transport's draft report had gone missing."

She believes that the problems of the *Derbyshire* and the other vessels were due to a misalignment of internal girders — a fault almost impossible to identify once construction was completed.

By the time the inquiry reported that the sinking was caused merely by bad weather, Mrs Bayliss was so ill she had to give up nursing. The strain of working at night, rushing to London by day from her home in Corby, Northamptonshire, and caring for a mother-in-law with dementia brought on a rheumatoid illness. She walks with a stick and is in pain.

Evidence of the structural weakness of bulk carriers continued to mount, and last July the International Transport Workers' Federation funded a mission to search for the wreck of the *Derbyshire*. They found it, in pieces, two and a half miles below the surface near a speck of an island called South Daito. Here at last was evidence that would show whether, as numerous engineers now believe, the ship had snapped in half at frame 65, the weak point where the barge section joins the stern section accommodating the crew.

Here, too, was a chance for Mrs Bayliss to bid farewell to Curly. When she set off for Japan, her son thought that she might throw herself into her husband's watery grave. The voyage was, though, a healing experience. With the flowers she cast into the sea went all the crippling, illogical guilt of the survivor. "I felt so much ... lighter ... suddenly. When I went to Japan I was part Marion, part Curly. I realised I had been carrying him on my back for 14 years. Now I was Marion again, and Curly was part of my past."

Back in Corby, Mrs Bayliss assembled the collection of harrowing, and impressive, poems she had written in a sequence ending with her cathartic visit to Japan. It was in a sense the end of her story — but the *Derbyshire*'s final chapter could be written only in the proceedings of an inquiry like the one to be led by Lord Donaldson.

As Mrs Bayliss points out, the loss of a bulk carrier in distant waters is scarcely reported unless there is a risk of oil spillage that might harm a few penguins nearby. "People say — yes, honestly, I've heard them say it — that most of the 2,000 men lost come from Third World countries, where life is cheap. As if those deaths didn't matter to somebody just as much as Curly's matters to me." She will not let Lord Donaldson rest, I am sure, until he has made the seas safer for mariners.

● Dispatches: *Channel 4, tomorrow, 9pm.*

The second extract from *Faith in the Future*, the new book by Dr Jonathan Sacks, the Chief Rabbi, will appear in *The Times* tomorrow.

Wreckage offers clue to death of the Derbyshire

By Catherine Milton

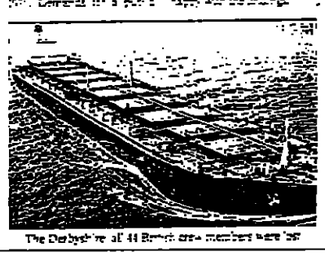
WRECK, 10SE from the biggest British ship ever lost at sea has been found and could solve the 18-year-old mystery of why she went down with all 44 hands.

The bulk carrier *Derbyshire* sank in a typhoon on September 1980 after its British The weather was blamed but many experts suspected structural defects in the 169,000-tonne vessel.

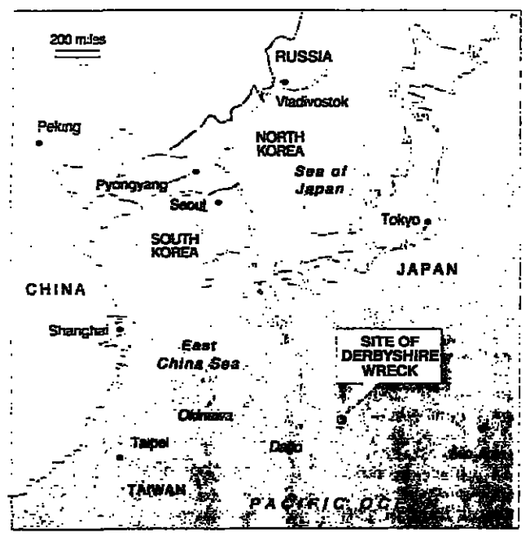
The trade union-sponsored survey ship *Ben Mor Mona* has now located at least seven large pieces of wreckage on the sea bed about 23 miles down and 500 miles south of Japan. The team will use a remote-controlled full-scale to make underwater shots of the wreck to see if she broke up before sinking.

"We were beginning to give up hope of finding her," Richard Flint, communications secretary of the London-based International Transport Workers Federation, said yesterday.

"At the very least, the discovery will be of comfort to



The Derbyshire: all 44 British crew members were lost



Feel like cuddling a colleague?

Hugging has no place in an office — let's bring back the crisp handshake

Ho ho ho. What fun we're all having over the Green Party's exhortations about the right and wrong way to hug. The correct embrace between colleagues is, I'll grant, a daft idea. But we're all so busy chortling with ridicule, as we congratulate ourselves for being hardy enough to survive the sort of no-nonsense lusty encounters that make the delicate Greens wilt merely to consider, that we fail to see the real idiocy: I mean, what is everyone doing hugging each other in the office anyway?

Words like inappropriate have the smack of the New Age puritan about them these days, but all this colleague-caressing that apparently goes on hardly seems appropriate behaviour to me. And one of the things that makes me suspicious about it is that — all the obvious and soon-to-flow revelations that will greet the release of *Disclosure* notwithstanding — it is always men who make a case for the respectability of physical displays of businesslike affection towards their female colleagues. You never hear a group of women moan about how unfair it is that they can't go up and hug the boys in bought ledger as and when they see fit.

On the whole, and sensibly enough, women do not want to go round flinging their arms around the men in the office. They are not having to restrain themselves. It is, frankly, not that tempting. Men, on the other hand, talk as if a little rub on the back there, a steering hand as one ambles, talking, down the corridor here or a physical demonstration of professional solidarity or admiration whenever the expansive mood takes one, is entirely natural. To thwart such behaviour or to talk of it as a "threat" is ludicrous or sad, depending on your point of view.

In a way, the men might be right here. Maybe it is entirely natural for men always to want to respond to women physically. Perhaps it is because men react to each other with so little demonstrativeness that when they are with women, all their touchy-feeliness comes out in the open. They all want a cuddle from mummy.

Of course everyone has bought into the myth that to be uptight and English and unaffectionate is a Bad Thing. The stiff upper lip is a thing of the past: every last one is puckered up for the squishiest of embraces. And you just can't stop the middle classes kissing each other these days.

Now, I don't really mind who kisses me. I'm such a coward I'll do anything not to embarrass or offend, even if it means putting up with any amount of inappropriate mawlings, but I do think the routine shows of phoney affection that we now seem to have adopted as a universal form of greeting are probably best left to actors and hysterics. Though I am entirely culpable here, too. I kiss anyone without thinking, simply because not to do so might be thought of as unfriendly.



NIGELLA LAWSON

'Every stiff upper lip is now puckered'

The difficulty is that we prize informality so highly now. Whenever I make an effort to resist all the back-slapping and space-invading that we mistakenly take for warmth, and offer a crisply held-out hand instead, I am met with near-amusement. "How formal you are!" is what I am told nearly every time. Even those who are too old to have been drowned in the wave of pseudo-Gallic kissy-kissyness, and whose own day dictated a firm, enthusiastic handshake, have taken to administering a pincer grip — somewhere between a hug and a pinch — to the upper arm. I've noticed. But just to the gels, you understand.

All offices should be tense with the promise of illicit liaisons — that is really the point of them — but that is not to sanction too many overt expressions of affection between colleagues. The trouble is, everyone spends too much time in the office these days. Perhaps they should just get home more and start kissing their children instead.

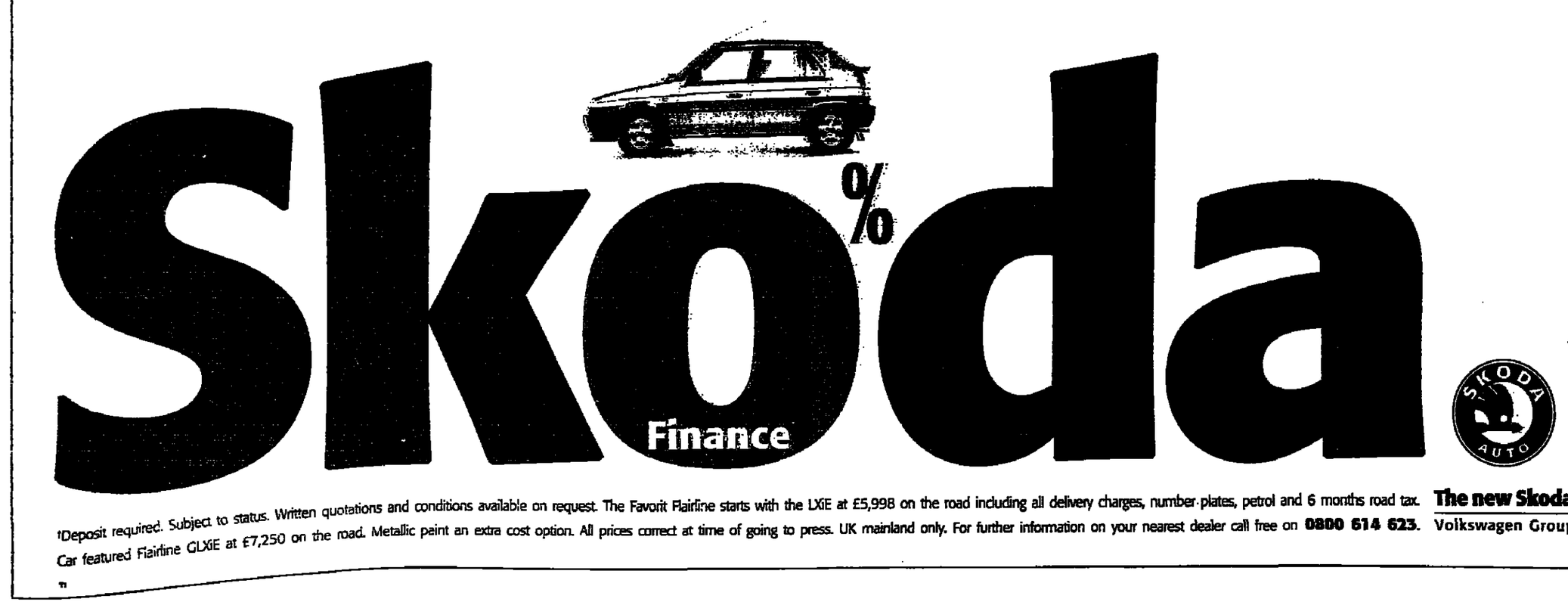
The diagnosis we deserve

IN THE past few days, since I've been moaning — until this moment only privately — about being ill, I have noticed that although everyone seems to have exactly the same illness — sore throat, cough, temperature, rattling chest — everyone claims to be suffering from a different ailment.

So far I've been assured by various brave and sick friends that they've got Asian flu, a pneumonia bug, sick building syndrome fallout, and stress-induced collapse. My own doctor was kind enough to tell me I had an inflammation of the trachea.

You remember that when, in London, there used to be the *Evening News* as well as the *Evening Standard*, newspaper vendors would pride themselves on knowing instinctively which paper the approaching customer read and would hand over, unasked, the correct copy? Well, I have a feeling that with This Thing That Is Going Around, as my ailment is probably more precisely described, doctors decide on a particular diagnosis that best suits the temperament or neurosis of the patient in front of them.

I am grateful for my inflammation of the trachea — which is why, no doubt, my doctor gave me it — because otherwise I would have to say I had flu, which in turn just sounds as if one's being a drama queen — or a man — about a having a cold.



The burden of Europe's debts

Tim Melville-Ross argues that monetary union would lumber Britain with many hidden costs

Debate about European monetary union has concentrated almost exclusively upon whether and at what point Britain should join and adopt a single currency. What is more, it has primarily concerned the political future of Europe, not the economic advantages and consequences.

Sunday's devaluation of the peseta and escudo is a sharp reminder that the real question is when, if ever, the European Union itself will be ready for EMU. Events in Spain and Portugal also show that it would be dangerous to put the debate on ice just because joining by 1997 or 1999 looks difficult. It was precisely because there was insufficient debate about the exchange-rate mechanism, and warnings about its economic consequences were ignored, that the experiment ended in fiasco.

In my view, a single currency cannot be made to work in Europe in the foreseeable future. Even on the basis of the convergence criteria in the Maastricht treaty, a number of countries, including Spain, Portugal, Greece, Italy and Belgium, will be unable to join a monetary union for several years — perhaps decades.

One problem is that the Maastricht criteria themselves are not what they seem. Another is that there are a hundred-and-one other questions about the economic implications, and it is encouraging to note that this point is now accepted by, among others, the Governor of the Bank of England and the head of the Bundesbank.

The problem with the Maastricht criteria is that even if states do achieve the desired level of economic performance, there is no guarantee that an individual economy would continue to perform as virtuously.

The German view is that the criteria have to be met strictly, without fudges or excuses. The European Commission, on the other hand, exploiting the Maastricht treaty's lack of clarity, seeks to interpret the criteria flexibly, so that all but the most spendthrift and hopeless would qualify for membership.

The Commission decided that Ireland qualifies for membership, even though it had a debt-to-GDP ratio of 90 per cent in 1994, when the Maastricht criterion is 60 per cent. In the Commission's view, it is good enough that Ireland's debt is moving in the right direction.

Monetary union might well be achieved more quickly this way, but the potential damage if economies diverge once locked into a single currency would be horrendous.

Adopting a single currency could have serious consequences for mortgages, the cost of borrowing for individuals and businesses, pensions and the transfer of taxpayers' money between rich and poor nations. Conditions in the housebuying and consumer finance markets differ significantly between EU countries. In Britain, for example, 80 per cent of all personal debt is in the form of mortgages, and 90 per cent of all mortgage debt is variable-rate. By contrast, most consumer debt in France and Germany is fixed-rate. So what would happen when the European central bank put up interest rates to control inflation? Simple. The British housebuyer would be hit far harder than his French or German counterparts, with devastating consequences for the British housing market. Which is not exactly the way to ensure even economic development across the Community.

Or consider pensions: Britain has more funded pension provision than the rest of the EU put together. Most of our future pensions obligations are covered in this way. Not so France, Germany and Italy, which rely on pay-as-you-go schemes. The governments of these states are at their wits' ends trying to devise means of coping with the demographic timebomb which will mean that "somebody" will have to pay for the pensions of the increasing numbers retiring in the next 20-30 years.

So who will pay? Governments will either have to tax more heavily or borrow on a huge scale. Higher borrowing means higher interest rates. Thus, within a European monetary union, Britain would find itself with higher interest rates as a result of higher borrowing elsewhere. Should monetary union lead to fiscal union, British citizens might also find themselves paying higher taxes to subsidise pensioners abroad.

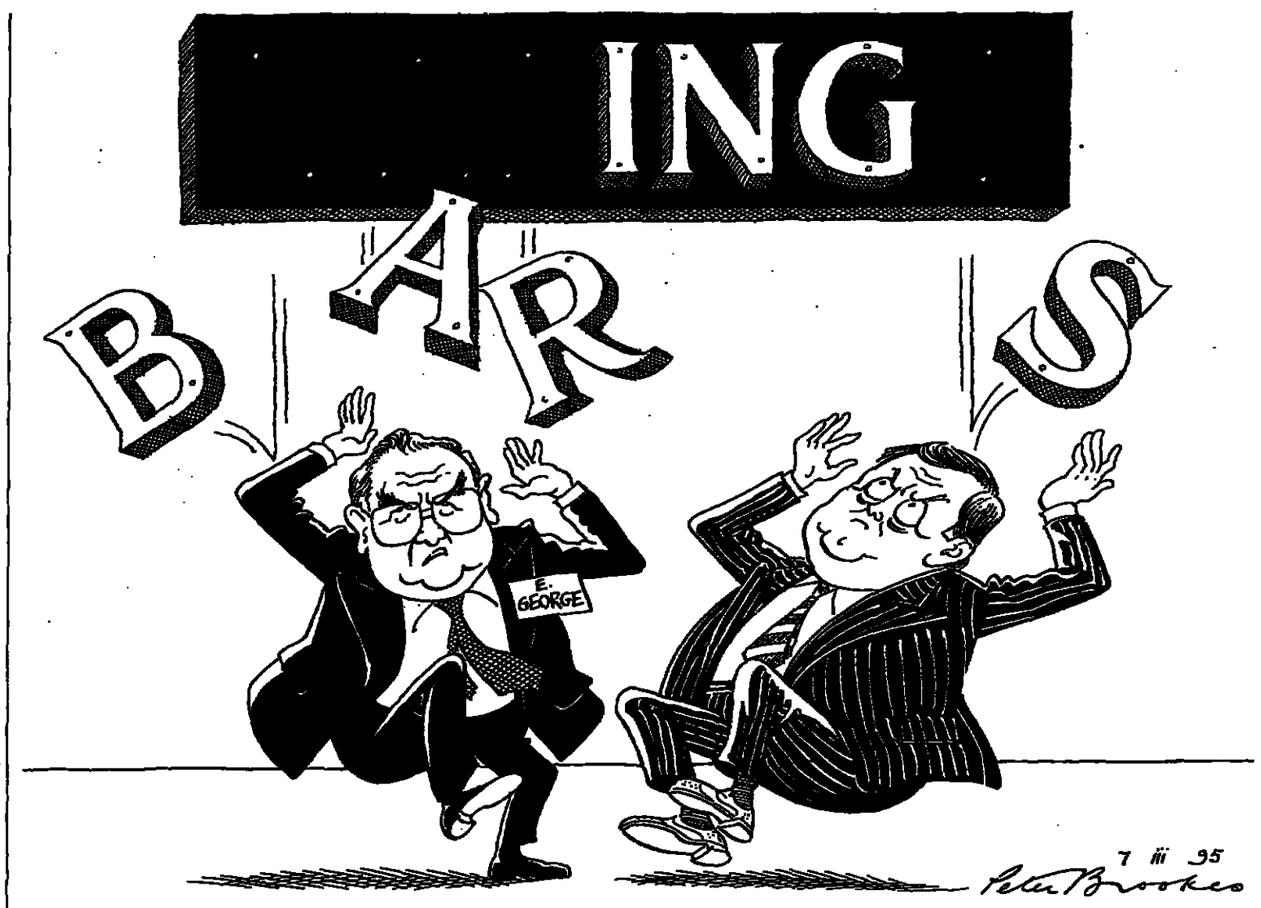
> Will we end up paying for the rest of Europe's pensions?

The structure of trade outside the European Union also needs to be considered. Were a European single currency to harden against the dollar, for instance, the countries most dependent on dollar exports would suffer disproportionately. As an oil-producing nation and a significant exporter to the US, Britain would be one of the losers.

Huge transfers of taxpayers' money between richer and poorer countries in the EU will be required to subsidise jobs and to equalise prosperity. This sounds a fine objective, but what will be its impact on the economies of the donor nations? And anyway, does it work? If all the money poured into the south of Italy had had the desired effect, it would now be one of the most prosperous regions in the EU.

We are being asked to take a step in the dark. The last time we ran into trouble with a pan-European economic mechanism the markets saved us by blowing us out of the ERM. But if we abandoned our national currency, there would be no escape. So it is imperative that no decision be taken before the issues are all understood.

The author is Director-General of the Institute of Directors.



Beggars can be choosers

Being asked for money in the street gives us all a frisson of shame, but some people elect this way of life

Il m'est permis de reprendre mon bien où je le trouve. (Molière, but, surprisingly, *post mortem*.) But all that means is that I am on the trail of an idea. Now my regular readers will know that anything — anything — can be made into edible newsprint, given enough ingenuity. Just heat the oven, cover the pan, simmer as directed, and lo! your plate will be decorated with the oddest creatures.

Columnists of my sort bring out the kindness in our readers, who are always asking, in amazement, how we can keep thinking up ideas for articles. But the world is so crammed with interesting things that whatever problems we columnists have, we never find ourselves at a lack of matter. This, of course, is because we have been given one great and wonderful boon — that we can write about anything and everything, in 1,500 words. Not long ago, indeed, I wrote my two-thousandth article, and I am still amazed in the knowledge that nobody has seen fit to make up a lynching-mob and get to work. While on the subject, I might as well make full confession: before I joined *The Times*, I had been writing in the *Daily Mail* no fewer than *five* times a week, on top of being that paper's theatre critic. Wherever did they get enough beautiful trees to cut down?

And while I am still reminiscing, I have another picture in my mind's eye; the *Mail* had given me for my space the first column on the inside page; it ran down almost to the bottom of the page, but not quite: my precious words regularly sat upon the advertisement for Bile Beans. (Are there still ads for Bile Beans in the *Mail*? Are there Bile Beans at all? What was, or is, a Bile Bean, anyway?) But this time, I have been almost stumped with the richness of two items which turned out to fit perfectly. Both of these scraps were to be found in Paris, and were taken from the *Herald Tribune* (oh, yes, I munch my fodder where I find it, though I do acknowledge, and anyway years ago I used to write regularly for the *Trib* so they would forgive me, to say nothing of the fact that the *Trib* would probably be pleased by the sideways compliment), and I must give you an idea of what these two stories hold for us.

The first is in the first person, and the person's name is Sarah Baldwin-Beneich — not easily forgotten once remembered in the first place. We know that Mrs Baldwin-Beneich *is* a Mrs, because when the curtain goes up Mrs B is looking for a McDonald's to share with her two-year-old son. But neither mother nor son managed to get more than one bite, because

> Someone came along who needed a Happy Meal even more than we did, a woman who looked at us with such a *mixture of envy and dignity that the natural thing to do was to offer her our food.* The three of us sat together in silence while she ate. Then she nodded her thanks and we went our separate ways.

Immediately, the problem of begging raises its head, but I do not mean that we must think about begging, though we have to; no, it is not the beggar but the begged-from — you and I — who twist upon the rack. How do we cope, or fail to cope, with the beggar's importunity?

But we must go back some way before we try to answer that question, because modern begging in Britain is a very recent phenomenom, and professional begging even more recent. That came, of course, from the United States, and America pioneered not only professional begging, but the more recondite version called "clean begging", in which the beggar (almost always young) is simply but cleanly dressed with hair obviously washed, and even more obviously not starving. I have not yet seen that in Britain, but it can hardly be long till it arrives.

Again, the doorway sleepers are a recent sight, though there must have been many homeless people long before the idea caught on. Our embarrassment — for we certainly are embarrassed — is heightened by the correct conviction that many of the apparently hopeless down-and-outs are not beggars at all, but prefer to get money in a different way. Yet, until the Government gives out two kinds of lapel-badge, one meaning "Genuinely starving" and the other meaning "I'm taking you lot for a sucker", we cannot distinguish between the two. I come back to Mrs Baldwin-Beneich:

> If you're walking down a sidewalk that a man is living on, then no matter how little you have, you still have more than he. That is why I put small change in my pocket before going out. It is not a habit born of high principles or self-righteous morality. It is simply a natural reaction to an intolerable fact of life... My critics say "It doesn't help". But does it hurt?

Now we go to Paris, where such things are put upon a very different and very Parisian footing.

> Philippe Herrand wants everyone to know that he is not one of the clochards, the scraggly outcasts who sleep on the streets or under the bridges. He makes it plain. "I sleep in the street, but I get up every morning, wash and shave, and take care of myself," he said. "If there's a blowup, I'll be out there with them... but it isn't just France. It's a worldwide crisis."

Indeed it is. M Herrand makes his living by getting up early to put pay-and-display tickets in car windscreens for his clients, the bourgeoisie, so enabling them to stay in bed another hour or two. Nothing wrong with that; a service is wanted, and it is paid for. Being Paris, of course, there are laughs, but 5,000 to 7,000 sleeping in the streets is not very funny. No, but it is very like London, and London is very like New York.

> M Chirac finally requisitioned several hundred vacant apartments for the homeless... But there is widespread *public cynicism about whether the* candidates will do anything meaningful about the homeless problem after the elections.

We go back to Mrs B, and those who look down on her because she is not helping the poor. Or rather, because she is helping the poor in the wrong way. But Mrs B argues that what the poor want is help, and they don't mind if it doesn't have the proper stamp on it. I confess that I, too, find myself embarrassed when the beggar holds out his cup; I tried to break the deadlock by giving a very large sum of money to that admirable enterprise *The Big Issue*, but it only made things worse, because I could hardly tell the sellers "I've already paid", and my discomfort is no less painful.

Come back again to Mrs B. She says:

> Who truly believes that beggars and homeless people could be somewhere else, doing something else? Does anyone really think they like spending their days underground or on the street, hand out and palm up, while a thousand backs turn? Most of them probably would prefer to be elsewhere, occupied with other things. But where is it written that a person must earn compassion, anyway?

There is only one flaw in Mrs B's argument: there *are* people who prefer begging as a trade, even if they could have real employment. I recall the short story by Israel Zangwill, "The King of the Schnorrers" (*schnorrer* is Yiddish for beggar) in which the *schnorrer* announces that he will *schnorr* a hundred pounds for his daughter's wedding, and is as good as his word. The young man I mentioned was such a man — no nine to five for him, and he was plainly enjoying his curious trade. What would she say to that? Well, I think I know what she would *not* say. She would not upbraid anyone, even the "sturdy beggar", though I think she might offer up a prayer for him. Because, you see, there is a twist in the story; the lady bountiful is herself poor. Not so poor as to seek a bed on a park bench, but poor enough to be wearing shoes five years old, without the money for a new pair.

Will this story make me — or you — less embarrassed when asked for alms by a beggar? If we contribute, is it really to clean our consciences? Does it matter if the beggar is helped? Does it matter if the beggar turns out to be fake? If there is a line of beggars, should we give alms to them all? How much should we give a beggar? After all, we can hardly stop to test the validity of the beggar's claim.

For that matter "Whosoever shall compel thee to go a mile, go with him twain". I rather think that Mrs Baldwin-Beneich has done that more than once. But even if she has, it doesn't ease our embarrassment.

Bernard Levin

What did Lamont expect?

Robert Rhodes James on political friendships

There is enduring truth in Churchill's dictum that in politics, and particularly at the top, there are no friends. It was certainly true in his case, for men who had thought themselves his friends found themselves dropped when their usefulness was over; but Churchill, outside his immediate family circle, was fundamentally a lonely man, who had colleagues and acquaintances rather than friends, and especially in politics, with the notable exception of F.E. Smith, whom Mrs Churchill rightly regarded as a bad influence on her husband.

Politics for the ambitious is a cruelly competitive business, with few rules and little mercy. In the sombre words of Francis Bacon: "There is little friendship in the world, and least of all between equals." There are some successful politicians who cross what Rosebery called "this evil-smelling bog" with dignity and disdain, and have friends and interests outside politics, but they are unusual. It is much more common for political contemporaries to start out as friends and then to become rivals and finally enemies. Those left behind in the race harbour jealous thoughts, rejoicing less at their colleagues' successes than in their misfortunes.

These pressures inevitably increase in the higher reaches of politics, and there are some famous examples of deep mutual hostility between alleged allies: Rosebery and Harcourt, Asquith and Lloyd George, Bonar Law and Churchill, Bevin and Morrison, Eden and Macmillan, Callaghan and Castle, Thatcher and Gilmour all spring to mind.

In Norman Lamont's case, his first mistake was not to insist on resigning over Black Wednesday, particularly because it later transpired that he had been deeply uncomfortable about membership of the exchange-rate mechanism. His second was not to accept the Cabinet post that he was offered when the Prime Minister decided that he wanted another Chancellor. His third was to make an embittered resignation statement. When Selwyn Lloyd was arbitrarily and brutally sacked by Macmillan, together with a third of the Cabinet, he was intensely bitter. He spent rather more time than he should have in Annie's Bar and the smoking room, but kept a loyal silence in public. Within weeks, a contrite Macmillan was pondering in his diary some future employment and role for his dismissed Chancellor. Selwyn came back spectacularly, first as Leader of the House and then Speaker. That was the example that Lamont should have followed, was advised to follow and yet ignored.

The remarkable thing about John Major's meteoric rise was that he made no enemies and many friends on the way, which could not be said of any of his postwar predecessors as Prime Minister. One factor, I suspect, is that only a few very shrewd judges rated him as a real challenger, even after he became Chancellor.

It is arguable that John Major over-rewarded Norman Lamont for his role in the leadership crisis of 1990 by making him Chancellor, but Lamont had been his Chief Secretary at the Treasury and presumably agreed wholeheartedly with his policies, including entry into the ERM. He later played what was considered an important and wholly supportive role at Maastricht, and an effective one in the 1992 election. It was then that the shadows began to fall.

John Major's loyalty to his friends is one of his most endearing qualities, together with his genuine kindness and sense of humour. He has changed less in his high office than any Prime Minister I have known. But there does come a moment when the national or party interest comes first, and the fact was that Norman Lamont no longer commanded any confidence — either nationally or internationally — as Chancellor. This may have been a harsh perception, but it was a reality. And Prime Ministers have to deal with realities.

Lamont's next mistake was not to recognise this: he considers himself a wronged man, the architect of our great economic recovery who has received no credit for his achievements. So he has moved into new fields of political controversy. I used to be involved in Northern Ireland affairs — especialy higher education — and was, and remain, a strong Unionist, although I welcome recent initiatives. But I do not recall Norman Lamont demonstrating any interest in these matters, in private or in public, until after his departure from the Government. Nor did I detect any serious differences over European issues. Of course consistency is the hobgoblin of little minds, and I have been rather inconsistent myself on occasion, but there are limits.

To return to Bacon: "The rising into place is laborious, and by pains men come to greater pains; and it is sometimes base, and by indignities men come to dignities. The standing is slippery, and the regress is either a downfall, or at least an eclipse." But who reads Bacon nowadays?

Sir Robert Rhodes James was Conservative MP for Cambridge, 1976-92.

Banker bites back

BRITISH bankers are under scrutiny as never before after the collapse of Barings. But they are fighting back. A Brit in New York is suing the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce for alleged racial discrimination. The lawsuit has been filed by Russell Deakin, who was a trader with the bank until January. Whether he left voluntarily is not clear, but he claims the bank and its French managing director in New York humiliated him into leaving.

The lawsuit alleges that British employees, or those of British origin, were "constantly derided about their race and national origin, in contrast to their counterpart employees of French origin".

The claim is that George Courtadon labelled the English lazy, unproductive, culturally inferior, bad dressers, arrogant, terrible cooks and "aggressive, uncultured people who kill each other in the soccer stands".

Lawyers at the bank were unavailable for comment, but are said to be fighting the claim. Deakin is seeking more than $30 million in compensatory and punitive damages. Evidently he can play them at their own game.

● *Linford Christie, who confirmed yesterday that he was pulling out of the World Indoor Championships in Barcelona, is already dabbling in extra-curricular activities. BBC2 has signed him up to read William Blake's* The Tyger *in a new education series.*



Whipped up

DISAPPOINTMENT in Oxford, where Norman Lamont had been invited to take part in a full and frank exchange of views over Europe tonight. Students claim that he cancelled his talk to the university's European Affairs Society at short notice under pressure from the whips. He begs to differ.

"He was our biggest speaker of the term," says Axel Wabenhorst at Wolfson College, who was organising the event. "I spoke to his secretary, who said that the whips wouldn't let him leave London. I think they fear what he might say."

Lamont denies cancelling the date. "I am still doing it. A date has been fixed, but it is not tonight."

Egged on

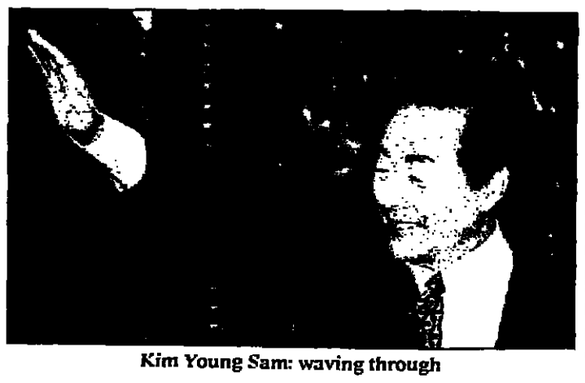
AFTER he had worked for the family bank for just a couple of years in Liverpool and New York, Rupert Baring, the 4th Baron Revelstoke, retired to live the life of a recluse in Ireland on Lambay Island, off the coast of Co Dublin. But he did not entirely lose the financial acumen for which his family were once famous.

On Sunday, Ulick O'Connor, recalled meeting the baron before his death last year, clutching a basket of guillemot eggs from the island's cliff, on his way to sell them to a Dublin hotel. However, his heart did overcome his head, O'Connor said, when the reclusive peer turned down a lucrative offer from a Japanese importer to supply certain parts of a seal, which the Japanese regard as a potent aphrodisiac. "He loved those seals too much to do it," *insisted the writer.*

Trodden toes

ROYAL staying-power was plain for all to see yesterday when Princess Christina of Sweden flew into London to prepare the way for the Royal Swedish Ballet's first trip to Britain. "I was up before dawn, but it was worth it," she explained. "I became patron of the company so that I could come along to all these events."

Simon Mottram, the company's artistic director, has also been through something of an endurance test. Eight of his female dancers are on maternity leave, and four of their partners are with them on paternity leave. "When the last one came to tell me," he says, "she dumped a bottle of vodka on the table before she told me. It eased the blow." But Mottram has yet to call on the services of the princess, who trained as a ballerina.



Kim Young Sam: waving through

Korea move

THE PRESIDENT of South Korea, Kim Young Sam, has been in training for his visit to London this week. He has been practising his wave. Back home, he hails his admirers with a sign that could be mistaken for a Fascist salute, but now he is adopting a regal wave to avoid offence.

Other preparations for the visit include an inspection of the band before it plays the South Korean anthem at a luncheon in London's Mansion House. This should avert the embarrassment caused a few years back on a state visit to the Continent, when a band struck up as the President arrived — and cheerfully played the wrong anthem.

P·H·S

هكذا من الأصل

PESETA POWER

Spain's devaluation threatens France and Maastricht

To dismiss the sudden devaluation of the peseta as a mere local difficulty with no implications for the future of European monetary union, as Kenneth Clarke did yesterday, betrays both historical short-sightedness and a lack of understanding of the way markets work. Sunday's collapse of the Spanish currency may seem superficially a matter of little importance except to Spanish businessmen and holidaymakers on the Costa del Sol: but if, as appears increasingly likely, the great "European Project" of a single currency under the Maastricht treaty is eventually consigned to the Book of Heroic Failures, then Sunday's Spanish devaluation may mark the beginning of that end.

Spain's devaluation is important because of the profound effect that it is likely to have on France. The difficulties for the French franc were already apparent yesterday as the French currency fell to its lowest-ever level against the mark. This will affect not only France's attitude to the ERM and monetary union but also its broader relationship with Germany and the rest of Europe. Just as Britain's expulsion from the ERM on Black Wednesday was catalysed by the sudden devaluation of the Italian lira on September 13, 1992, so the Spanish devaluation is now likely to trigger an attack on the already weak French franc. Just as the 1992 Italian devaluation proved that there was nothing inviolable about the exchange rates fixed by the old ERM, Spain's surrender has shown that it is impossible to defend even the much looser ERM limits agreed in August 1993, when France proved unable to withstand the last speculative assault.

More importantly, the Spanish devaluation will force investors and politicians in France and in Germany to ask the awkward questions they have been ducking in the run-up to the presidential election. What will be the cost to French industry and agriculture if the franc remains linked to the German mark while two of its most important trading rivals — Italy and Spain — maintain floating exchange rates and undercut their French competitors by ever-wider margins? And where is the benefit to France of Franco-German monetary co-operation if, even after France sticking steadfastly for eight years to the *franc fort* as the centrepiece of its economic policy, the franc comes under ever sharper speculative attack?

The difficulty for France is that, even if another attack on the franc does not deter the French public and politicians from carrying on with the long slog of Maastricht, the Germans are likely to take a much more jaundiced view. Not only is the Bundesbank now more resistent than ever to helping its ERM "partners" to weather currency storms, butthe Bundesbank's indifference to the ERM, and scarcely disguised hostility to monetary union, reflects a sea-change in Germany's whole attitude to Europe since the last franc crisis in August 1993.

Monetary union and the Franco-German relationship are no longer the overriding themes of Germany's economic and diplomatic strategy. Germany increasingly sees itself as the hub of Central and Northern Europe, rather than as one of the poles of a Franco-German axis looking towards the Atlantic and the Mediterranean. The more France comes to be associated in the German mind with Spain and Italy — as it is likely to be in the event of a currency crisis — the less comfortably it will fit in a Northern-dominated monetary union designed to accommodate Germany's financial satellites in Central Europe and the North Sea.

German politicians and financiers have become increasingly outspoken in their scepticism about monetary union, at least on the timetable conceived at Maastricht. Any demand from France now to help in defending its currency could well tilt that scepticism into outright opposition — and Germany is the one country whose public opinion has it in its power to break Maastricht. France, therefore, will now see it as essential to avoid being contaminated in any way by Spain's devaluation. But the history of the ERM — whose very structure seems to encourage contagious currency crises — suggests it is unlikely to succeed.

LIFE WITH BUGGINS

What is bad for Nato is bad also for the WTO

Dismay was expressed in abundance last September when Willy Claes, the Belgian Socialist apparatchik, vaulted into the Secretary-General's office at Nato. It should have been apparent to all but the most partisn that Mr Claes was ill-tailored for the post, particularly at a time when the organisaton had to tread shifting sands. Yet the method of Buggins's turn, of which the world's internationalists are so enamoured, dictated that Nato was Belgium's plum after Jean-Luc Dehaene failed to capture the presidency of the European Commission.

Manfred Wörner's baton was thus handed unthinkingly to a man who was opposed to the stationing in Belgium of both cruise and Pershing missiles. Mr Claes was unschooled in matters of defence: but this appeared to his backers to be of little importance. The fears of those who opposed his appointment were confirmed when the Secretary-General announced a simplistic proposition for the forging of formal links between Nato and the governments of North Africa. "Muslim fundamentalism," he intoned, without accounting for Nato's unreadiness to intervene in the domestic strife of the Maghreb, "is now as big a threat to the alliance as communism once was."

In the last few weeks, pressure has mounted on the Secretary-General to "clarify" his position in a Belgian defence contract scandal which has led to the detention — on bribery charges — of a man who was an aide to Mr Claes when the latter was his country's Finance Minister. Nato, the only organisation which can safeguard effectively the security of the West, finds itself in the charge of a man who is in peril of being sucked into a cash-for-helicopters scam at home, and of whose personal integrity there are now many unanswered questions.

The case should serve as yet another warning to the world's leaders against the methods which plucked Mr Claes from relative obscurity in Belgium to the helm of the West's foremost security oranisation. For a similar mistake seems about to be made in choosing the Secretary-General of the World Trade Organisation (WTO).

The WTO, the successor body to Gatt, came into existence on the first day of the new year. Over two months later the organisation is still without a head: and so deadlocked does the matter appear that several more months could elapse before Peter Sutherland is relieved of his interim position. With the ignominious withdrawal from competition of Carlos Salinas de Gortari, the former Mexican President, only two of the original candidates remain.

Neither Renato Ruggiero, a former Italian Trade Minister, nor Kim Chul-su, the Trade Minister of South Korea, is an acceptable choice for a job that could, with time, come to be more important even than that of the Secretary-General of the UN. America, which had previously supported Señor Salinas, cannot bring itself to back either man: nor should it. The WTO needs a Secretary-General of intellectual vision, diplomatic muscle and commitment to global free trade. It does not need a Buggins, backed blindly by a bloc, the product of crude compromise. What is bad for Nato would be bad also for the WTO.

CODE FOR KISSING

Manners makyth man, and man needs to make his manners

Hugs and kisses, like walking, used to be a natural act made perfect by trial and error. But the growth of courtesy kisses as a conventional greeting has persuaded the Green Party to issue guidelines against invading the other party's body space or threatening it sexually.

Shoulders and the middle of the back are acceptable parts of the body for the initial contact. The waist is taboo as being too intimate, and the head because it is too patronising. The full frontal bear hug, squeezing a squeal out of the recipient as out of a bagpipe, is considered sexually predatory. However, the choice of whether or not to make the ritual mooing noise of Mwwww while pecking on alternate cheeks seems to be politically neutral, though it may be described by contour lines of class or region.

When greeting such sensitive souls, it is tricky to work out whether it is more dangerous to embrace their persons or their principles. The culture of kissing is a modern maze. Manners now change faster than fashion, slang or accent, and in an increasingly classless world there are no longer authorities such as courtiers or mistresses of etiquette to lay down the codes.

The English were once famous throughout Europe for the promiscuity of their kissing. Witnesses to this are the diarists, the poets and the foreign visitors. But as dress became drabber and forms of address more formal, so manners became colder. A firm handshake and a modest inclination of the head replaced kissing, except perhaps on the hand as a relic of feudal courtesy. And even that could be perilously intrusive. When a young man came up to James Joyce and said, "May I kiss the hand that wrote *Ulysses*?" Joyce replied, somewhat like King Lear, "No, it did lots of other things too."

Muslims are offended by the practice of kissing between the sexes. Hindus avoid contact by their stately salutatory gesture. Until television taught them to kiss like everyone else. Maoris stuck out their tongues and Inuits rubbed noses as formal greeting. The triple cheek kiss has gone out of fashion in Eastern Europe because it was the gesture of the Communists, which looked more comradely than it usually was.

This revolution in manners has spread, like Western fashion, around most of the world. Courtesy kissing is a friendlier salutation than the ritual gesture of official love between monarchs or the formal English handshake to make the eyes water. Kissing makes a statement without words. The modern salutatory kiss needs to be compassionate not passionate, and to show comradeship, support and friendship, not lust. We need all the help we can get with such volatile and sensitive codes. The Greens have pioneered a perspective on the manners of modern kissing. But, as with the rest of manners, practice and the recipient are the truest teachers.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

GP fundholders' budget savings

From Dr Kenneth Scott

Sir, Your Health Services Correspondent, in his report today on GP fundholding practices, mentions only some of the positive benefits that these practices have achieved for their patients by savings from their budgets through judicious contracting for hospital services, integrating primary and secondary care and reviewing their prescribing.

Most fundholding practices have achieved savings since the onset of the scheme and, as Jeremy Laurance points out, under National Health Service regulations these have to be used to improve the level of patient care.

But it is important also to recognise that they are used by fundholders to improve services throughout the NHS, apart from elevating the level of care in general practice. Extension of premises, for instance, enables services to be relocated to general practice from hospitals which can then concentrate their specialist care for patients whose clinical conditions necessitate hospital treatment.

Since the introduction of the NHS reforms and the creation of fundholding I believe that general practice has at last come to be recognised as part of the total NHS, and the initiatives by fundholding practices to develop patient care have improved the delivery of health care throughout the service.

Many of us involved in primary care believe that the regulations allowing fundholding practices to use their planned savings should be extended to non-fundholding practices which should and are being involved in the commissioning process through their family health services authorities.

Yours sincerely,
KENNETH SCOTT
(Chairman, South East branch,
National Association of
Fundholding Practices),
Elm House Surgery,
29 Beckenham Road,
Beckenham, Kent.
March 1.

From the Minister for Health

Sir, Colourful headlines about the use of GP fundholders' savings, such as yours of March 1 (earlier editions) — "Four GP practices share £1m after saving on care" — need to be put in context.

By giving GP fundholders the power to back their clinical judgments with money, the Government has ensured that decisions are taken as close to the patient as possible. This is revolutionising services in the GP surgery as fundholders are now offering services that were previously the preserve of acute hospitals — from hernia operations in Southend to electro-cardiogram tests in Derbyshire.

Fundholders are not only improving services: as you report, they are also making savings of between 3.5 to 4 per cent of budgets. These savings do not disappear into GPs' pockets or a black hole in Whitehall. They are used to benefit patients in many different ways, such as buying new equipment or more hospital care or improving premises. It must be right to encourage GPs to prescribe more effectively, as fundholders are already doing, thus saving over £70 million which can be reinvested in patient care.

There are of course rules on what fundholders cannot use their savings for. The bottom line is that it must always be patients who see the benefits.

Yours,
GERALD MALONE,
Department of Health,
Richmond House, 79 Whitehall, SW1.
March 3.

From Dr Ben Ross

Sir, You report that four GP practices in southeast London have £1 million unspent from their budget. At the same time there may well be patients from the same area, but in non-fundholding practices, who are unable to get an appointment to see a consultant, let alone have treatment, because of a lack of money held by the district health authority.

This unacceptable face of fundholding must be the next issue addressed by the Prime Minister, when he has finished dealing with the fat cats of privatisation.

Yours sincerely,
BEN ROSS,
38 Wykeham Way,
Burgess Hill, Sussex.
March 1.

Board changes

From Mr Timothy Brooks

Sir, The manufacturers of Monopoly need make no changes. Next time Mr J. F. K. Hinde (letter, March 3) plays Monopoly, he should quietly buy up the utilities, and then inform the other players that as chairman of a newly-privatised business he is entitled to a substantial bonus every time he passes Go (£5,000 per utility should do nicely).

The other players, naturally, have no say in this matter.

Yours faithfully,
TIMOTHY BROOKS,
38 Abbots Road,
Abbots Langley, Hertfordshire.
March 3.

Business letters, page 27

Church's treatment of its employees

From the Reverend D. A. Streater, Director of the Church Society

Sir, Dr Alex Coker, who has appealed to a tribunal for permission to sue the Church of England for wrongful dismissal (report, February 24; leading article, March 1), did not enjoy the protection of freehold. The question has therefore to be asked, what was the basis of his employment? The tribunal's finding, that the arguments of the Church that the clergyman is employed by God are inconsistent, appears to be well founded legally and biblically.

Legally, Dr Coker has agreed to work on behalf of the Church. He is capable by ordination of fulfilling the tasks for which he receives a remuneration. The terms and conditions are set out in a letter and are mutually agreed by the two parties. If this is not a contract, what is it? Biblically, the minister is called by God and that vocation is recognised by ordination. The New Testament clearly sets out that the "labourer is worthy of his hire".

But if the Church of England is to be free from the due process of law in relation to employment, then it would be wise to drop its insistence that freehold for incumbents should be abolished, which is the secular approach presently being adopted.

Those who leave the market place, with its high rewards and insecurities, for a stipend do so on the grounds of a vocation to the service of God in Christ. If the market place is to rule in the Church, so that vocations give way to careers, then the Church with its "managing director bishops" must start to live in the real commercial world of high salaries and legal proceedings for wrongful dismissal.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID STREATER,
Director, Church Society,
Dean Wace House, 16 Rosslyn Road,
Watford, Hertfordshire.
March 1.

From Dr Chris Ball, Secretary, MSF Clergy Section

Sir, "Priests in charge" may simply be given notice of withdrawal of their licences (as Dr Coker was) and they have no rights whatsoever to representation or a fair hearing. Such treatment would of course be unthinkable in any decently managed company nowadays, where some form of appeal would be provided under the normal disciplinary and grievance procedures.

In these circumstances, it really is wide of the mark for your leading article to hint that an application to an industrial tribunal is somehow an inappropriate step for unbeneficed clergy (like Dr Coker) to take.

"Failed shepherds expelled from the fold by their elders" may be a suitably biblical way of describing clergy thrown out on their ears, but even shepherds (it must be assumed) would expect the rules of natural justice and a fair hearing to be available before facing the wolves of unemployment. Establishing a right for unbeneficed clergy to complain of unfair dismissal will provide a very modest counterweight to the medieval power currently wielded over them by the bishops.

Providing the Church is reasonable in its treatment of the clergy, it should have nothing to fear if it is sometimes asked to account for its actions before an independent tribunal.

Yours sincerely,
CHRIS BALL,
Secretary,
MSF Clergy Section,
50 Southwark Street, SE1.
March 2.

From the Reverend Stephen Trott

Sir, You are indeed right to say that "the Church should be distinguished as a matter of first principle from other employers". It ought to be a model employer, especially in view of the fact that many of its employees make considerable personal sacrifices in order to take up their vocation in ministry, ordained or lay.

The freehold has, historically, ensured that those who become parish priests can at least expect security in their tied housing, in which they are required to live. As a corollary, the stipend is set at a modest level which assumes that there is no need to pay for a mortgage. But a third of the clergy these days have no freehold, and the Church is talking about taking it away from those who still have it. This would indeed mark the transition from a vocation to a job.

This may be what the General Synod decides to do when it debates the issue in November. But it must recognise that employees are entitled to fair treatment in law, and to be paid at a level which will enable them to buy their own homes, in place of temporary tied housing.

Yours faithfully,
STEPHEN TROTT
(Steering Committee,
MSF Clergy Section),
The Rectory, Humfrey Lane,
Boughton, Northampton.
March 1.

From Ms Ruth Harvey

Sir, The danger forecast in your leader that "the Church will ultimately find it impossibly difficult to rid itself of those determined to damage its interests or to rebel gratuitously against its teaching" can easily be avoided.

As in the case of any other employer, the Church would simply need to establish that the dismissal was due to one of the five potentially fair reasons for dismissal (for example misconduct, incapability, or — perish the thought, with falling congregations — redundancy) and that they were also "reasonable". Surely, not too much to ask of a spiritual institution?

Yours faithfully,
RUTH HARVEY
(Employment lawyer),
Barnett Alexander Chart (solicitors),
34-35 Dean Street, W1.
March 1.

Jobs and minimum pay

From Mr Denis MacShane, MP for Rotherham (Labour)

Sir, Mr Phillip Oppenheim, who seeks again to argue that minimum-wage systems cost jobs (letter, March 1), writes from a ministry which has changed the way unemployed and other claimants are counted 27 times since 1979 in order to massage the figures.

It was the Department of Employment which sent me the figures for 1980 to 1990 which I cited in my letter of February 22. If you take account of the recession of 1990-1993, the figures are probably even worse.

If Mr Oppenheim has a problem with his own department, he has another with a fellow minister, William Waldegrave, who has decided to keep in existence the Agricultural Wages Board which will determine minimum wages in that sector. *Noblesse oblige*, apparently, for the landowning classes and their employees, while other workers are cast to the mercy of the most unfairly tilted labour market in Europe.

The Prime Minister has just announced a U-turn on top executives' pay (report, March 1). I wait to see if the growing anger about poverty pay mounts sufficiently to see Government action to protect from exploitation those whose employers offer them a job at such low wages they are obliged to seek benefits from the taxpayer to keep family and home together.

Yours sincerely,
DENIS MacSHANE,
House of Commons.
March 1.

Concern at cuts

From the Director General of the Chartered Institute of Marketing

Sir, That 6,000 university places are to be cut, and a 30 per cent cap imposed on young people entering UK universities (report, March 3), is potentially disastrous. Capital and raw materials are freely transferable throughout the world. Virtually all countries can support competitive world-class manufacturing.

A nation's ability to compete and enjoy an acceptable standard of living depends largely on the education, skills, competence, experience and knowledge and motivation of its people.

France has a target of 60 per cent of its young people entering higher education by the year 2000. The South-East Asians reputedly have higher targets. The CBI in a report last June called for a 40 per cent target to start to close the gap. Even this target is likely to deny eligible young people entry by the year 2000.

The Government's short-term action will damage our ability to compete in the ever more sophisticated and demanding markets of the world. Higher education should not be rationed.

Yours etc,
STEVE CUTHBERT,
Director General,
The Chartered Institute of Marketing,
Moor Hall,
Cookham, Maidenhead, Berkshire.

Pause for thought

From Mr Charles Crick

Sir, Talking to oneself is said to be the first sign of madness. What sign of madness is it when the sole director of a company is required to make a declaration to himself of his personal interest in a contract in order to have the "statutory pause for thought", let alone to have a meeting with himself? (Law Report, *In Re Neptune (Vehicle Washing Equipment) Ltd*, March 2).

Yours faithfully,
CHARLES CRICK (Partner),
D. J. Freeman (solicitors),
1 Fetter Lane, EC4.
March 2.

Better the devil . . .

From Mr A. R. Grimes

Sir, As both a shareholder in NatWest and a BBC licence-payer I am altogether happier with the £100,000 bonus paid to Lord Alexander than I am with the £1 million to be paid by the BBC to a television presenter for eight months' work (report, February 22).

Yours faithfully,
A. ROWLAND GRIMES,
Hoath Cottage, Carpenter's Lane,
Hadlow, Tonbridge, Kent.

Letters for publication may be faxed to 0171-782 5046.

Upwardly mobile on the airlines

From Mr Ken McDonald

Sir, I enjoyed Harvey Elliott's article on obtaining a free upgrade on airliners ("The ABC of landing a better seat", March 2). Four years ago my wife and I flew to Boston from Glasgow and having been advised by a friend, who crosses the pond frequently, obtained two upgrades to business class by using the tactics outlined by Mr Elliott — and also we checked in last.

We repeated the procedure at Boston a week later. My wife was allocated seat 1A in first class and I was eventually found the last remaining seat at the back of the aircraft among the shellsuits and smoke. My dear wife had the decency to send some caviar and canapés back to me.

She was seated next to a dour Edinburgh professional and had a pleasant enough conversation with him until he remarked that the fare was a bit stiff at nearly £4,000 return but it was worth it. She could not resist informing him that our tickets had cost nearly £165 return but she had to travel out club class.

There was no further conversation during the remaining five hours of the flight.

Yours faithfully,
K. J. McDONALD,
3 Deer Park, Selkirk.
March 3.

From Ms Judith Jackson

Sir, I fly to the defence of many of the world's major airlines. Ms Debra Enderby (letter, March 4) claims that women almost never achieve upgrade unless travelling with their spouses. This is not my experience.

In more than 25 years of flying, often alone, I have been upgraded on many occasions. Once, the late and usually unlamented Pan-Am even moved me to a first-class seat because the rest of the economy section was occupied by a team of American footballers and their supporters.

More recently, flying BA from Geneva to London, I was upgraded while the high-profile captain of industry to whom I had been chatting in the departure lounge was left to fly home steerage class. When I asked the desk clerk how this had happened, she told me that it was because I was a woman travelling alone.

I have never been upgraded when travelling with my husband.

Yours faithfully,
JUDITH JACKSON,
6 Bovingdon Road, SW6.
March 5.

From Squadron Leader Clive Mitchell, RAF (retd)

Sir, Upgrades? Easy. Flannels, blazer, dickie-bow and, crucially, a Panama — either worn or carried.

Yours faithfully,
CLIVE MITCHELL,
Townsend Barn, Long Street,
Croscombe, Wells, Somerset.
March 5.

Climbing life's ladder

From Mrs Patricia Barry

Sir, If Colin Vaughan-Jackson and his wife (letter, February 28, other letters, March 4) were to add a fourth child to their family without too much delay they could become "Pofaced" (Parents of four active children, endless debts). Some time later they will be declared "Pots" (Parents of teenagers — this requires no further elaboration).

Yours faithfully,
PATRICIA M. BARRY,
191 Millhouses Lane,
Sheffield, South Yorkshire.
March 4.

From Mrs Gay Davenport

Sir, Mr and Mrs Vaughan-Jackson can look forward to becoming "Toads" (Three offspring, all dependent still). But I am sorry to have to tell them that this stage of the metamorphosis seems to run and run.

Yours faithfully,
GAY DAVENPORT,
Moorsmead Cottage,
Honeybridge Lane, Ashurst,
Nr Steyning, West Sussex.
March 1.

From Mr Tom Underhill

Sir, Those who are "Triffids" (Three recent infants, falling further into debt) will surely migrate to "Gussets" (Gave up sex, slowly edging towards solvency).

Yours faithfully,
TOM UNDERHILL,
Grove Lodge,
Winkfield Row, Berkshire.

From Mr F. A. Hawke

Sir, As I recall, the periods "Yuppies", "Dinkys" and "Orchids" are the easy times. Worst of all is "Pips" (Pensioners in penury).

Yours faithfully,
F. A. HAWKE,
35 Theresa's Walk,
Sanderstead, Surrey.

From Mr Andrew Clark

Sir, The concluding stage of your family life is when you become a "Cocoon" (Cheap old childminder operating on nothing).

Yours faithfully,
A. CLARK,
2 The Crescent,
Wallsall, West Midlands.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
March 6: The Prince Edward this evening attended the Northern Ballet Theatre's premier performance of "the Brontës" at the Grand Theatre and Opera House, Leeds, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for West Yorkshire (Mr John Lyles). Mrs Richard Warburton was in attendance.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
March 6: The Princess Royal this afternoon arrived at Zia International Airport, Dhaka, Bangladesh, and was received by the British High Commissioner (His Excellency Mr Peter Fowler).

Later Her Royal Highness was received by The President of the People's Republic of Bangladesh.

Today's royal engagements

The Queen will hold an investiture at Buckingham Palace at 11.00.

The Duke of Edinburgh, as patron and trustee, will attend receptions for young people who have achieved the gold standard in The Duke of Edinburgh's Award at St James's Palace at 11.30 and 4.00; as president, will preside at a meeting of the Royal Mint Advisory Committee at Buckingham Palace at 2.30; and, as President of the Central Council of Physical Recreation, will attend a reception and supper at Guildhall at 6.45.

The Prince of Wales will address the Local Agenda 21 Conference, organised by the Local Government Management Board, and will join delegates for luncheon at the Café Royal at 12.15; and, as President of The Prince's Youth Business Trust, will attend a production of *Hamlet* by the Almeida Theatre Company at the Hackney Empire at 6.55.

The Duchess of Gloucester will open the Jewish Blind and Physically Handicapped Society's sheltered housing complex, Cecil Rosen Court, 327-331 East Lane, North Wembley, at 3.30.

The Duchess of Kent will visit the Liverpool Family Service unit, Edge Lane, Liverpool, at 11.45; as patron, will visit Alder Hey Children's Hospital, Eaton Road, at 12.35; will attend a service in Liverpool Anglican Cathedral at 3.30; and will attend a dinner at Liverpool University at 7.40.

Princess Alexandra, as patron, will visit CARE Community at Rowde, Wiltshire, at 2.30.

Lord Nelson of Stafford

The Memorial Service for Lord Nelson of Stafford will be held at St James's Church, Piccadilly, London on Tuesday, March 21, 1995, at 11.30am.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Joseph Niepce, pioneer of photography, Châlon-sur-Saône, 1765; Alessandro Manzoni, poet and novelist, Milan, 1785; Sir John Herschel, astronomer, Slough, Buckinghamshire, 1792; Lucia Mathews (known as Mme Vestris, actress, Soho, 1797; Sir Edwin Landseer, painter and sculptor, London, 1802; Thomás Masaryk, 1st President of Czechoslovakia 1918-35, Hodonin, 1850; Piet Mondrian, painter, Amersfoort, The Netherlands, 1872; Maurice Ravel, composer, Ciboure, France, 1875.

DEATHS: St Thomas Aquinas, *Dominican theologian*, Fossanova, Italy, 1274; Jean Pierre Blanchard, *balloonist*, Paris, 1809; *Cuthbert* Collingwood, 1st Baron Collingwood, *admiral, at sea*, 1810; John Richard Green, historian, Menton, 1883; Aristide Briand, *11 times* Premier of France, Nobel Peace laureate 1926, Paris, 1932; Percy Wyndham Lewis, writer and artist and founder of Vorticism, London, 1957; Stevie Smith, poet, London, 1971.

The Royal Horticultural Society was founded by John Wedgwood, 1804.

Jenny Lind, the "Swedish Nightingale", made her *debut* at the Stockholm Opera in Weber's *Der Freischutz*, 1838.

Lord Hope of Craighead

The life barony conferred upon the *Right Hon James Arthur David* Hope (commonly called Lord *Hope*) has been gazetted by the name, style and title of Baron *Hope of Craighead, of Banff in the* District of Perth and Kinross.

Dinner

Athenaeum
Mrs Virginia Bottomley, Secretary of State for Health, was the principal speaker at a talk dinner held last night at the Athenaeum. Lord Howe of Aberavon, QC, was in the chair.

Birthdays

Mr David Arbuthnot, racehorse trainer, 42; Sir Robert Atkinson, *former chairman, British Ship*builders, 79; Mr William Boyd, author, 43; Mr W.A. Bromley-Davenport, Lord Lieutenant of Cheshire, 60; Viscount Chelmsford, 64; Mr Malcolm Chisholm, MP, 46; Mr G.A. Cooke, former chairman, C.T. Bowring, 72; Professor D.P. Farrington, criminal psychologist, 51; Sir Ranulph Twisleton-Wykeham-Fiennes, explorer, 51; Sir Kenneth Green, Vice-Chancellor, Manchester Metropolitan University, 61; Mr Justice Hidden, 59; Mr John Horam, MP, 56; Mr D.O. Horne, former chairman, Lloyds Merchant Bank, 63; Mr R.F. Humm, former managing director, Ford Motor Company, 58; Mr Nicholas Kraemer, conductor, 50; Sir Anthony Lambert, diplomat, 84; Sir John Latey, former High Court judge, 81; *Mr Ivan Lendl*, tennis player, 35; Mr Rohinton Mistry, novelist, 43; Sir Paul Nicholson, chairman, Vaux Group, 57; Lord Oliver of Aylmerton, 74; Mr Michael Oliver, racehorse trainer, 45; Sir Eduardo Paolozzi, sculptor, 71; Dame Beryl Paston Brown, former Principal, Homerton College, Cambridge, 86; Sir Peter Petrie, an adviser to the governors of the Bank of England, 63; *Lord Phillips* of Ellesmere, 71; Mr Piers Paul Read, author, 54; Mr Viv Richards, cricketer, 43; the Earl of Snowdon, 65; Mr David Spedding, diplomat, 52; Mr Richard Vernon, actor, 70; Dame Margaret Weston, former director, Science Museum, 69; Professor Gordon Willey, American archaeologist, 82.



ADRIAN BROOKS

An 1886 horse-drawn omnibus crosses Westminster Bridge bringing the once-familiar clatter of hooves back to the streets of London. Its owner, the London Omnibus Company, is now waiting for the Heritage Department to give it permission to stop in Trafalgar Square on a sightseeing route that includes Parliament Square, Whitehall, the Cenotaph, Downing Street and Horseguards Parade. The omnibus was found rotting in a field at Dorking, Surrey, by Tony Drewitt, an expert on horse-drawn carriages. It took more than ten years to restore

Oakham School

Scholarship Awards 1995
Academic
Sixth Form
Jerwood Scholarship: Natasha *Fursey, Oakham School*; Sally Whitehill, Oakham School.
Jerwood Exhibition: Anna Cunnington, Vale of Catmose; Andrew Goodwillie, Oakham School; Steven Pengelly, Newcastle under Lyme; Victoria Spratt, Oakham School; James Warbrick-*Smith*, Oakham School; *Phillip* Woolfe, Oakham School.
13+
Jerwood Scholarship: Peter Robbins, Spratton Hall.
Jerwood Exhibition: Christopher Aylliffe, Duke of Kent School; Susan Evans, Dhahran Academy; Thomas Finch, Lyndhurst House; Ian Milne, Malsis School; James Stein, Pappiewick.
Headmaster's Award: Thomas Francis, St John's College S, Cambridge; James Galpin, St John's College S, Cambridge; Tania McNally, *William Perkins School*; Thomas Wheeler, Stoneygate School.
11+
Jerwood Scholarship: Victoria Maskell, Stoneygate School; Laura Plebinga, Stoneygate College.
Rutland Scholarship: Matthew Ormian, Oakham CE Primary.
Jerwood Exhibition: Nicholas Dalton, Fairfield School; Sarah Shanks, Stoneygate College.
Music & Drama
Sixth Form
Drama Scholarship: Cecilia Greenlaw, Oakham School / Stoneygate S. *Music Scholarship*: Anna Cunnington, Vale of Catmose.
11+
Music Exhibition: Graham Freeman, Kirkstone House; Lucy Swan-Wilson, Glenn Prep; Sarah Shanks, Stoneygate College.
13+
Music Exhibition: Selina Conboy, Oakham School; Susan Evans, Dhahran Academy; Peter Robbins, Spratton Hall; Dingle Yandell, *Westminster Abbey Choir S.*
Art & Design
Sixth Form
13+
Art & Design Scholarship: Edward Burridge, Oakham School; Elizabeth Dalton, Spratton Hall.
Art & Design Exhibition: Emily Audley, Nevill Holt; Daisy Clark, St John's College S, Cambridge.
Design & Technology Scholarship: Peter Ainge, Stancliffe Hall.
Design & Technology Exhibition: Cassie Machado, Oakham School / Emscote Lawn.

Chariot racing got off to an early start

BY NORMAN HAMMOND, ARCHAEOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

THE ancestors of the Aryans, the warlike settlers of northern India who composed the Vedic hymns and invented the chariot, may have been tracked down to a desolate area of the Russian-Kazakhstan frontier. Burials near Magnitogorsk, on the eastern side of the Urals, date to 2100-1700 BC and document rituals similar to those recorded in the *Rig Veda* 1000 years later.

The burials of the Sintashta-Petrovka culture "may answer important questions about the origins of chariot technology and its spread into Anatolia and across the steppe to China," according to Dr David Anthony and Dr Nikolai Vinogradov. Chariots were found at Sintashta some years ago, but half a dozen more burials have now been excavated, and their date has been pushed back by up to four centuries.

Radiocarbon dating of bone suggests that decorated bridles and cheekpieces in Sintashta burials date to around 2000 BC. As a result, supposed similarities with Mycenaean chariot gear of 1650 BC and later can now be interpreted as influence from the heart of Asia on the cultures of the Aegean.

The *Rig Veda* describes chariot racing, and refers to their use in warfare. There are also references to the sacrifice and eating of a horse. Such sacrifices are found in Sintashta-Petrovka burials: their heads and hides, together with the front legs, were deposited in the grave, while the back legs were laid out separately.

Perhaps the most striking parallel comes from a burial at Potapovka on the Volga, where a human sacrifice had been beheaded and a horse's head placed where the human one had been. In one of the *Rig Veda* myths the divine Aśvin twins cut off the head of a fire-priest and replace it with that of a horse, in order to learn the secret of a magical mead drink.

"For many centuries the *Rig Veda* was considered too sacred to be put into writing. The original Indo-Iranian language was retained even after it became so archaic that it could no longer be fully understood," the authors say. "Many of the gods and religious concepts that appear in the *Rig Veda* and in the oldest Persian texts must represent a common inheritance".

"The Sinashta-Petrovka culture might be that Indo-Iranian group: they were probably not Aryans themselves — more likely they were the ancestors of the Aryans of the *Rig Veda*."

Source: *Archaeology* Vol 48 No. 2:36-41

Church news

Appointments
The Rev Peter Boulton-Lea, Rector, Kirk Sandall w Edenthorpe, Doncaster: to be *also* Rural Dean of Doncaster (Sheffield).
The Rev Stephen Bowring, Assistant Curate, St Michael and All Angels, Thurmaston: to be Vicar, St Botolph, Shepshed (Leicester).
The Rev Frederick Brodie, Curate, St Mary, Lutterworth and St Mary, Cotesbach: to be Priest-in-charge, Christ Church, Mountsorrel and St Peter, Mountsorrel (Leicester).
The Rev David Burrows, Curate, St James the Great, Marston *(Ripon): to be Vicar, Southowram*, and from August 31 (when a vacancy occurs) to be *also* Priest-in-charge, St Thomas, Charlestown (Wakefield).
The Rev Francis Chadwick, formerly Rector, Stockbridge (Winchester): to be Chaplain of St Nicholas, Helsinki, Finland, w Tallin, Estonia (Europe).
The Ven Michael Colclough, Personal Assistant to the Bishop of London and Priest-in-charge, St Vedast: to be Deputy Priest in Ordinary to HM the Queen.
The Rev Guy Cole, Priest-in-charge, St Peter, Penhill: to be The Rev Graham Earney, Social Responsibility Officer, diocese Bath and Wells: to be Director of the Bishop Mascall (Conference) Centre, Ludlow (Hereford).
The Rev Colin Fowler, Priest-in-charge, All Saints, Moulton (Lincoln): to be Chaplain, All Saints, Puerto de la Cruz, Tenerife (Europe).
The Rev James Hunt, Curate, Huddersfield, St Peter and Paddock: to be Priest-in-charge, St Mark's, Longwood (Wakefield).
The Rev Graham Keegan, Vicar, St Mary, Ince-in-Makerfield: to be Vicar, St Peter, Newton-in-Makerfield (Liverpool).
The Rev Bruce Leng, Rector, St Mary's, Handsworth, Sheffield: to be Priest-in-charge, and Rector Designate, Thrybergh, Rotherham (Sheffield).
The Rev Robert McTeer, Assistant Curate, All Saints; South Shields Team Ministry: to be licensed to the Rural Dean of Auckland for ministry in the parish of St Helen, Auckland (Durham).
The Rev Hugh Mead, Tutor at St Paul's School, Barnes: to be Reader at the Temple and Deputy Priest in Ordinary to HM the Queen.
The Rev Stephen Morris, Team Vicar, Watling Valley (Oxford): to be Vicar, St William and St David, Chatham (Rochester).
The Rev Annette Reed, Curate, Walsgrave on Sowe (Coventry): to be Priest Colleague (Curate), Burbage cum Aston Flamville and Hinkley St Mary (Leicester).
The Rev David Self, Team Rector, Dunstable (St Albans): to be Rector, St Paul's, Bristol (Bristol).
The Rev David Smith, Chaplain, University of Birmingham (Birmingham): to be Anglican Chaplain of Heathrow Airport (London).
The Rev Mervyn Thompson, Assistant Curate, St Catherine, Richmond Road, Sheffield: to be Vicar, St Hilda's, Thurnscoe, Rotherham (Sheffield).
The Rev Keith Trivasse, Priest-in-charge, St Margaret of Scotland, Castletown (Durham): to be Vicar, Bothal and Pegswood w Longhirst (Newcastle).
The Rev Ian Watson, Team Rector, Woodley (Oxford): to be Chaplain of Christ Church, Amsterdam w Heiloo, Netherlands (Europe).
The Rev Trevor Whitfield, Assistant Chaplain, St Ursula's, Berne, Switzerland: to be Chaplain of Holy Trinity, Utrecht, Netherlands (Europe).
The Rev Peter Yacomeni, Vicar, Wick w Doynton and Dyrham: to be *also* Rural Dean of Bitton (Bristol).

Forthcoming marriages

Mr A.S. Conrad
and Miss S.H. Scott Thomas
The engagement is announced between Andrew, son of Mr and Mrs Neville Conrad, of Holland Park, London, and Serena, daughter of the late Lieutenant Commander Simon S. Thomas, Royal Navy, and of Mrs Simon Idiens, of Dorset.

Mr G.N.S. Dunn
and Miss L.J. Tattersall
The engagement is announced between Lisa Jayne, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Richard Tattersall, of Peterborough, and Gareth Neil Stuart, son of Mr and Mrs Nigel Dunn, of Nottingham.

Mr H.J. Goulding
and Miss L. Guest-Gornall
The engagement is announced between Henry, younger son of Mr and Mrs Marrack Goulding, of London and New York, and Lucy, daughter of Mr and Mrs Anthony Guest-Gornall, of Sunningdale, Berkshire.

Mr B.G.T. Stephens
and Miss K.L. Denny
The engagement is announced between Benedict George Trevelyan Stephens, Grenadier Guards, son of Mr and Mrs Robert Stephens, of Edinburgh, and Katharine Louise, younger daughter of the late Mr Tim Denny and of Mrs Tim Denny, of Hingham, Norfolk.

University news

Cambridge
King's College
Annual fellowship election (internal) 1995
Elected into junior research fellowships for four years:
Samuel Alves Jana Rodrigues Aparicio, from October 1: Ian Patterson, from April 1, 1995.
Elected into official fellowships under statute E. VI 3 for five years from October 1:
Prof Sir Martin Rees, MA, PhD, FRS; Miss Emma Rothschild
Elected into a junior research fellowship in the external competition in Hispanic Studies for four years from October 1:
Elisa Sampson, BA (Oxford)
Elected into a senior research fellowship in the external competition in Cognition and Evolution for four years from October 1:
Robert Aunger

Church of Scotland

Appointments
Ordinations and Inductions
The Rev Allan B Brown to Lochalsh; the Rev Robert A Hamilton to Bourtreehill Relief, Irvine; the Rev Ewan McLean to Martyrs', Glasgow; the Rev Iain C Murdoch to Cambusbethan Old, Wishaw.
Ordination
The Rev David Self, Team Rector, Dunstable (St Albans): to be Rector, St Paul's, Bristol (Bristol).
The Rev Elizabeth M Curran, Associate, St George's West, Edinburgh: the Rev M S McInnes, Associate, St Columba's Ayr.
Induction
The Rev Ian C Fraser to St Luke's and St Andrew's, Glasgow.
Retirements
The Rev James Duncan from Blair Atholl.
The Rev Mary L Hutchison from Lincluden with Holywood, Dumfries.
The Rev Alexander F Fleming from Strathblane.
The Rev Robert M Tuton from Shettleston Old, Glasgow.

Latest wills

Professor Sir Geoffrey Rudolph **Elton**, of Cambridge, Regius Professor of Modern History at Cambridge 1983-88, left estate valued at £736,447 net.

The Right Rev Edward Ralph **Wickham**, of Eccles, Greater Manchester, *Suffragan Bishop of* Middleton 1959-82, left estate valued at £161,796 net.

PERSONAL COLUMN

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Observe my statutes and my laws: whoever keeps them will have life through them. I am the Lord.
Leviticus 18 : 5 (REB).

BIRTHS

BAYNES – On 6th March 1995, to Bryony (née Starr) and Matthew, a son, David William Robert.

BOUCHE – Elizabeth and Jean-Michel are delighted to announce the birth of their beautiful son Pierre Patrick on 2nd March 1995 at Belfast City Hospital.

COUSINS – On February 24th, to Sarah (née Rushen) and Ian, a daughter, Bethan Victoria, a sister for Hannah Louise.

DAWSON – On February 27th, to Brogie (née van Dijk) and Michael, a son, Oliver, a brother for William, Claire and Annabel.

EASTWOOD – On March 4th, to Joanna (née Vail) and John, a son, John Harry (Harry), a brother for Rose.

FORDHAM – On February 27th 1995, to Rupert and Georgina, a son, William Herbert.

GLOVER – On 6th March, to Juliet (née Paterson-Morgan) and Edward, a daughter, Samantha Jessica, a sister for Leo.

GREENWOOD – On 1st March 1995, in The Netherlands, to Marieke (née Bird) and Jonathan, a son, Thomas Felix (Tom).

KWOK – On 2nd March at the Matilda Hospital, Hong Kong, to Nicola (née Livingstone-Learmouth) and John, a son, William Douglas Somerville, a brother for Charles.

OLESEN – On March 1st, to Fiona (née MacLellan) and Niels, a son, Alexander, a half-brother for Annabel and James Glynne-Percy.

OLSEN SAVELIEV – On 4th March in Cambridge, to Jane and Andrei, a daughter, Katya Savelieva.

PETERSON – On March 2nd 1995, in Nahrebi, to Alexandra (née Faber) and Scott, a daughter, Olivia Rose.

RIDLEY – On 20th February 1995, to Jackie and Julian, a daughter, Charlotte Josephine.

ROELE-VAN HELLEMBERGHUSAR – At The Portland Hospital on February 22nd, to Jost and Locqie - a daughter, Anna-Louise.

BIRTHS

ROXBOROUGH – On 2nd March at The Portland Hospital, to Judith (née Prior) and Iain, a daughter, Olivia Rose Alice, a sister for Jamie.

STATHAM – On March 2nd at Queen Charlotte's Hospital, to Fiona (née Mixopris) and Christopher, a daughter, Georgia Annette Crichton, a sister for Jamie. Always remembering Charlie.

ter HAAR – On March 4th 1995, to Emma (née Goating) and Mark, a beautiful son, Thomas Albert.

THOROLD – On March 3rd, to Georgina (née Armitage) and Marcus, a son, Jack Guy Peter.

TITCOMB – On March 1st 1995, to Mark and Diana (née Mills), a son, Alasdair George, a brother for Dominic.

WISEMAN – On 19th February, at Plymouth, to Jane and Paul, a daughter, Alice Mary, a sister for James, William, Rachel and Catherine.

MARRIAGES

LANCASHIRE-LAW – Dr. Bill Lancashire to Dr. Jennifer Law in Jasper Alberta on 4th February 1995. Attended by many friends and family from Canada and the U.K.

SPARROW-KENNEDY – Recently at All Saints, Upper Clatford, of Mr Owen Sparrow, only son of Mr Paul Sparrow and Mrs Ann Brolse and Miss Isobel Kennedy, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs David Kennedy, of Upper Clatford, Hampshire. The Reverend P. Gillis officiated.

DEATHS

ARMITAGE HUNT – On 6th March 1995, Gillian Armitage Hunt O.B.E., widow of Peter, much loved mother of Nicholas, Suzy, Benjamin and Lucy, adored grandmother and wonderful sister to Deirdre.

AUSTIN – On 5th March 1995, at his home Glaston, 54 Albert Road, Dumfries, William Austin. Funeral private. No flowers or letters please.

DEATHS

BEECH – Michael John, suddenly at home on 28th February 1995, aged 46 years. Funeral Service to be held at St Benedict's Church, Birmingham, on Wednesday 8th March at 2 pm, followed by a private cremation. Flowers to be sent to Thomas Bragg & Sons, 562 Stratford Road, Shirley, Solihull.

BEGGS – On March 3rd 1995, suddenly, Michael, adored husband of Judy and greatly loved father of Sara, Mark and Camilla. Private cremation: followed by Thanksgiving Service at Frant Church at 11.30 am *Friday 10th March. Family* flowers only but donations if desired to R.N.L.I. c/o E.R. Hickmott & Son, 41 Grove Hill Road, Tunbridge Wells, TN1 1SD.

BENSON – Lord Henry Benson of Drovers, on 5th March 1995, peacefully at Chichester. Funeral private. Memorial Service to be announced.

BENYON – Eve, widow of Vice Admiral Richard Benyon, on 4th March, peacefully at home, aged 98. Cremation private. Service of Thanksgiving at St Mark's Church, Englefield, at 11.30am Friday 10th March. *Family flowers only.*

BLAZEY – On March 5th 1995, peacefully at home, Kathleen (née Canning) aged 91. She dearly loved wife of the late Harry Blazey and mother of Alan. Funeral at St Michael's Church, Camberley, on Tuesday March 14th at 2.30 pm.

BRUCE – On March 4th, suddenly and peacefully in hospital, Beatrice (née Rosier), beloved wife of Sandy and mother of Jamie. Funeral at St Andrew's Church of Scotland, Chartres, Brussels, at 2.30 pm Wednesday March 8th.

BURGESS – On March 3rd, peacefully at home, Gwen, aged 89, widow of Derek W. Burgess, loving mother of David and of the late Nigel Burgess, Master Mariner and Ysenbrohart, beloved sister, mother-in-law, grandmother and great-grandmother. Funeral at Randalls Park Crematorium, Leatherhead, on Tuesday, March 14th at 2pm. Family flowers only, but donations, if desired, to St Raphael's Hospice, London Road, North Cheam, Surrey SM3 9DW.

DEATHS

BURLEIGH – Peacefully in hospital after a short illness, Eileen Betty, of Charbury, aged 86 years. Requiem Mass at Holy Trinity Church, Chipping Norton, on Friday 10th March at 1 pm. Flowers or donations c/o Sole & Son, Bidston Close, Over Norton, *OX7 5PP. Tel: (0608)* 644112.

CARROLL – On March 4th 1995, Revd. Father Anthony Carroll aged 72, of St Patrick's Church, Watchfield (RMCS). Beloved nephew of Christine Price and brother of Mal/Ceri D.R. Carroll (rtd). Requiem Mass, St Patrick's Church, 2 pm Friday March 10th. No flowers by request, donations *for the Portsmouth Diocese* Fund for Sick & Retired Priests may be sent c/o A.E. Baker & Sons, Cardinal House, Farlington SN7 7BP.

COLSON – Pauline Gibson, after a short illness, aged 72 on 1st March. Much loved wife of Phil, mother of Jeremy, Andrew, Robert and Peter. Funeral at Haycombe Cemetery, Bath, 12.20 pm on 9th March. Flowers or donations to Action Aid. If desired, to the funeral directors, L.J. Groves, 12 Charlton Road, Keynsham, Bristol BS18 2JA.

DALRYMPLE – On March 3rd, at home, John Hew, dearly loved husband of Caroline and wonderful father of Joss, Tim and Nick and grandfather of Megan, Julia and Jack and adored brother of Prue. Service of *Thanksgiving at St John the* Baptist, Pewsey, Wiltshire, at 3 pm Friday 10th March. No *flowers but donations to the* Royal Scots, The Royal Regiment, The Regimental Trust, tel: (031) 310-5014.

DAVIDSON – Suddenly on 6th March 1995, Leslie Davidson (David) aged 91 years. Housemaster of Boyne House, Clayesmore College 1940-1965. Widower of Lilian and father of Anthony and Bill (deceased). Funeral at Cheltenham College Chapel on Monday 13th March at 2 pm. Flowers may be sent to Gethin Smith & Co., 74 Prestbury Road, Cheltenham.

DE JONGH, Vivian on 2nd March after a fall, serenely and with great wit, widow of Louis, mother of Nicholas and Stephanie, grandmother of Petra and Jemaine, sister of Rena, aunt of Julia and Cressida. Funeral private.

DEATHS

DUDLEY – (Lewis) Jill Atlee on 1st March 1995 at The Old Rectory, Ewhurst, peacefully in her sleep after a courageous fight against cancer. Jill, aged 65 years, beloved mother of Alex, Marcus, Amanda and Oliver. The funeral service and celebration of her life takes place at Holy Trinity Church, Rudgwick, on Friday 10th March at 1.30pm. Family request no mourning clothing. Flowers or plants or donations for Dr. Brade, Neuro-Oncology *Fund* may be sent c/o Treasdale Brothers, 9 North Parade, Horsham, West Sussex.

EDWARDS-JONES – On March 3rd Ian QC aged 72 years of Gloucestershire. Private cremation to be followed by a Memorial Service. Further enquiries to Phillip Blatchly & Son, tel: (01594) 829545.

FORBES – On Sunday March 5th 1995, peacefully at Praesmoir House Residential Home, Aboyne, Aberdeenshire, Katharine Stewart Forbes, daughter of the late Sir Charles Forbes, Fifth Baronet. Service in Strathdon Church on Friday March 10th at 2.15 pm, to which all friends are respectfully invited, followed by Mass and Private Burial.

FOULKES – Peacefully on March 1st Elizabeth, dear wife of Sir Nigel Foulkes. Private family cremation. A Memorial Service will be held at St Mary's Church, Addlestone, Oxfordshire, on March 14th at 2.15 pm. Simple flowers (which she loved) to J & M Humphris, Albert Street, Banbury, Oxon. After the service they will go to the Horton Hospital, where she died.

GAULD – At Murrayfield Hospital, Edinburgh, on 3rd March 1995, Doris Mackenzie Eadon Gauld, wife of the late John French Gauld and mother and best friend of Caroline. Service in St John the Evangelist Episcopalian Church, Princes Street, Edinburgh, on Wednesday 8th March at 2 pm, interment thereafter in Dean Cemetery.

GILBERT – On March 3rd 1995, peacefully, Dorothy S. Gilbert, aged 86 years, retired H.M.I. Funeral Service at Aldershot Crematorium on Friday March 10th at 2.30 pm. At her request, no flowers please.

DEATHS

HEARD – Ernest A.H., O.B.E., M.A., former Head of Modern Languages at Dulwich College. On February 25th, aged 83, at home in Fareham, Hants. Private cremation took place on March 3rd.

HIGGINSON – On Friday 3rd March 1995, after a courageous fight against cancer, Barbara Joan, in her 61st year. She will be sadly missed by her many friends. Funeral Service at Woodvale Crematorium, Lewes Road, Brighton, East Sussex, on Monday 13th March at 2.30pm. Flowers or donations, if desired, to Coppercliff Hospice c/o A & F Pilbeam Ltd., 81 Underdown Road, Southwick, West Sussex, tel: (01273) 593494.

LAW – Brenda Marjorie (widow of Frank William F.R.C.S.), on 2nd March peacefully in her sleep, aged 90. Funeral Friday 10th March at Crematorium, Old Torrington Road, Barnstaple. Flowers c/o M. Denny & Son, 84 Newport Road, Barnstaple, North Devon.

LESTER – On March 4th, Helen aged 82, of Rosevine, Cornwall, widow of Norman and beloved mother of Claude, Virginia, Rory and John, after a long illness bravely borne. Funeral at St Gerrans Church, Gerrans, Cornwall, at 11 am on Friday March 10th. Flowers to W.J. Bewetherick, Fairmantle Street, Truro; donations to Mt. Edgcumbe Hospice, St Austell.

MacWILLIAM – In an accident whilst holidaying in South Africa on Saturday 4th March, June Henrietta (née King). Will be sadly missed by family and friends.

McCULLOCH – Jean Margaret Hedworth died suddenly and peacefully on 2nd March, aged 85, in Kirkwall. Service in St Magnus Cathedral, Kirkwall, on Monday 13th March at 2pm. Cut flowers only please.

NORTON – On March 5th, Captain Peter John Norton, aged 82. Dearly loved husband of Olive, father of Sarah and John. Funeral: St Mary's Church, Compton, Sussex, Thursday 9th March, 2.30 pm. Flowers to: Couzens, Westbourne, (Emsworth).

DEATHS

PADMORE – On March 4th 1995, Rosalind (Lady) Padmore née Cuthane, aged 91 years, wife of Sir Thomas Padmore. Funeral private. No flowers please.

PRATT – On March 2nd, peacefully at home, Peter Lynn, beloved husband of Lydia and loving father of Martin and Jeremy. Professor Emeritus of Imperial College London. Funeral 2.30 pm Monday March 20th at St Mary's. Old Beaconsfield. Family flowers only. Donations, if wished, to Iain Rennie Hospice at Home c/o Grimsdells, Shepherds Lane, Beaconsfield, Bucks.

READ – On 1st March, suddenly at home, Elizabeth Joyce, in her 80th year. Dear sister of John, Christopher and Susan. Much loved by nephews, God children and her many friends of all ages. Funeral at St Anne, Brookfield, Highgate Westhill, N6, on Thursday 9th March at 1 pm followed by family cremation. Family flowers only. Donations, if wished, to The Friends of Highgate Cemetery c/o Leverton & Sons Ltd., 149 Kentish Town Road, London NW1 8PD.

ROANTREE – On March 4th at Wells Cottage Hospital, Commander Gerard Robert Roantree, ret'd Royal Navy. Beloved brother, father and grandfather. Requiem Mass at St Henry's Church, Burnham Market, on Wednesday March 8th at 10am, followed by private cremation. Family flowers only but, if desired, donations for Wells Cottage Hospital c/o S.T. Sutton Funeral Director, Wells-Next-The-Sea, Norfolk.

STOKOE – On March 1st, suddenly at home, Ruth Silvia, beloved wife of George, mother of Andrew and James. Funeral Service at All Saints Church, Upper Sheringham, Norfolk, on Friday March 10th at 12.30pm. Flowers to Blyth Funeral Services, 4 Cromer Street, Sheringham, Norfolk.

DEATHS

TARRY – On Friday March 3rd 1995 peacefully in Worthing Hospital, after much illness cheerfully and bravely borne, Monna Patricia Isobel, dearly loved wife of John and devoted mother of Anne, Andrew and Philip. Memorial Service at St Margaret's Church, Angmering, at 11 am on Thursday March 9th, cremation having already taken place. Flowers may be sent, or donations in lieu for Worthing Hospital Haematology Trust Fund c/o H.D. Tribe Ltd., 63 Sea Lane, Rustington, West Sussex BN16 2RQ. tel: (01903) 787188.

THOMPSON – On March 3rd 1995 at Princess Alice Hospice, Esher, Surrey, peacefully after a courageous fight. David Francis Manners, Solicitor. Beloved husband of Sylvia, much loved son of the late Brig. Kynaston Thompson and of Rosemary Thompson. Adored stepfather of Marcus and Candida. Sadly missed by family, colleagues and friends. Funeral at Randalls Park Crematorium, Leatherhead, Surrey, on Friday March 10th at 11 am. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, to Princess Alice Hospice, Esher, or St Anthony's Hospice, Cheam, Surrey.

TOYNBEE – On 27th February, Una Ruth Toynbee, beloved wife of the late Rev. J.W.H. Toynbee of Holt's Field, Looe, Cornwall. Much loved mother and grandmother. Funeral private.

WALKER – Robert ("Bob"), CBE, OBE – peacefully on 4th March (aged 94 years) – in the excellent care of the Rukkda Nursing Home, Abercorn House, Blackwater, Camberley. Wonderfully supportive husband to Joey, great companion to Robin and Clem and wise mentor to Finlay and Sonja. Ex-tea planter and rugger player. Funeral Service at Guildford Crematorium at 1 pm on Friday 10th March, followed by luncheon.

WHITWORTH – Frank, Group Captain QC, of Westcott, Surrey, died peacefully on 2nd March 1995. Funeral at Holy Trinity, Westcott, 11.30 am on Friday 10th March, followed by private burial. Flowers to Sherlock & Sons, Trellis House, Dorking.

DEATHS

WILLIAMSON – On March 3rd 1995, peacefully in the Chelsea and Westminster Hospital, Laura Violet, aged 91. Widow of Aubrey Ortebar Simpson and of William Glynn Williamson, dear mother and mother-in-law of Michael and Rosita Simpson-Ortebar, and much loved grandmother of Aubrey, Edward and Charlotte. Funeral Service at 12 noon on Thursday March 9th at St Luke's Church, Sydney Street, SW3, followed by private cremation. Enquiries to Chelsea Funeral Directors, 260B Fulham Road, SW10, tel: (0171) 352-0008.

WILLIAMS – Maurice, suddenly at home 3rd March. Beloved of Heather, Honor, Felicity, Lalage and Lucy. Loving grandfather of Katherine, Elizabeth, Charlie and Jim. Favourite uncle to the American boys Michael, Mark, Ian and Adrian. Cremation at Landican 10th March. Family flowers only. Thanksgiving to be held in Hampshire later. Donations to The King George's Fund *for Sailors. "We cannot* ourselves to nothing else so happy as in a soul remembering our good friend".

MEMORIAL SERVICES

CAPON – The Memorial Service for Sarah Capon will be held at St Columba's Church of Scotland, Pont Street, London SW1, on Wednesday March 22nd 1995 at 3 pm.

IN MEMORIAM — PRIVATE

POKE – Patricia Lawrence actress, died March 7th 1943. Your family and all your many friends remember you with great love.

THANKSGIVING SERVICES

HARMER – A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Sir Frederic Harmer C.M.G. will be held at the Aldeburgh Parish Church of St Peter and St Paul at 12 noon on Wednesday March 22nd 1995. Enquiries tel: (01728) 603108.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

YOUNG CHELSEA BRIDGE club and school (18-40 age group). Tel: 071-373 1666

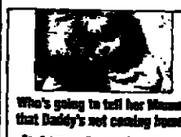
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OBITUARIES

LORD BENSON

Lord Benson, GBE, chartered accountant and former adviser to the Governor of the Bank of England, died on March 5 aged 85. He was born on August 2, 1909.



FEW men outside Whitehall can have had more influence on public affairs in postwar Britain then Henry Benson. As senior partner in the firm of Coopers & Lybrand, he built up an international reputation as one of the most formidable accountants of his time. Outside his profession, however, he was best known for his work on a bewildering variety of committees and public bodies. Taxation, transport, energy and horse racing, defence procurement, housing, education and the law were among the policy areas and industries which at one time or another Benson scrutinised.

He built up an impressive store of expertise as one of Britain's top investigative accountants. This led in 1964 to his appointment as a Board of Trade inspector looking into the collapse of Rolls Razor and to his 18-year membership of the investment fraud tribunal.

But the work which perhaps gave him greatest satisfaction was that as chairman of the International Accounting Standards Committee in the early 1970s. His achievement in harmonising systems throughout the world did much to raise the status of his profession.

Henry Alexander Benson was born in South Africa. His father, a solicitor, had emigrated from this country, while his mother was a Cooper before her marriage — daughter of one of the founders of Cooper Brothers — then a small but highly respected firm of accountants.

It was in order to join this family company in London that Benson came to Britain at the age of 18, following his schooling in Johannesburg. He was a partner within three years of qualifying.

On the outbreak of the Second World War he was commissioned into the Grenadier Guards and, as a second lieutenant, was soon patrolling the walls of Windsor Castle with an empty revolver, protecting the two Princesses who were then living there.

In 1943, however, Benson was plucked from his battalion and seconded to the Ministry of Supply to advise on the reorganising of the accounts of the Royal Ordnance Factories (ROFs), which were then in a chaotic state. He was subsequently appointed director of the ROFs to carry out his own recommendations. He later recalled striding through the factories, still wearing his battledress — complete with cane.

He briefly served in Washington towards the end of the war, before being drafted to Cairo as an acting brigadier. There he helped to wind down Allied operations in the Eastern Mediterranean, including Greece, demobilising officers overnight. He was appointed CBE for his work there.

On leaving the Army himself he rejoined Cooper Brothers and started a rapid programme of expansion. Benson helped to shake up the old firm "until it rattled". This led to the 1957 link-up with the American firm of Lybrand, although the two companies traded under their separate names until 1973.

At about the same time, however, Benson also started to expand his own career. As early as 1945 he was invited to advise the new Labour Government on housing production and two years later he joined Crawley Development Corporation. In 1953 he was made deputy chairman of the Fleck Committee which was looking at the organisation of the National Coal Board. Other similar appointments quickly followed.

Studies of Northern Ireland's railways, the New Zealand fruit trade and the transformation of coal into oil, chemicals and gas (the Wilson committee) were succeeded by an invitation from the Chancellor of the Exchequer in 1963 to examine the impact of a tax on companies' turnover.

The dockyards, the Ministry of Defence and the National Trust, the Open University (he was treasurer at one time) and even *The Times* (he belonged to The Times Trust 1967-81) were among the areas he entered as his column in *Who's Who* steadily lengthened. His directorships included the Hudson's Bay Company, the Finance Corporation for Industry, the Commercial Finance Corporation and Hawker Siddeley.

Honours were meanwhile heaped on him. Knighted in 1964, he was created GBE in 1971 and a life peer ten years later. But most of his committee work was unpaid.

Retiring from Coopers & Lybrand in 1975, Benson was soon snapped up by his friend Gordon Richardson, then Governor of the Bank of England, to work there as an industrial adviser for seven years — at a time of great upheavals in British industry.

His chairmanship of the Royal Commission on Legal Services, which imposed a punishing workload between 1976 and 1979, was his last great public service of that kind.

Benson continued to be active in the House of Lords, however, speaking frequently on industrial issues and on the incidence of fraud in the European Union.

He was sufficiently interested in racing to work closely with the then Duke of Norfolk, a personal friend, to put up a new stand at Ascot in the 1970s. His other recreations included sailing, gardening and shooting.

He inherited from his uncle the shooting rights on the Drovers estate near Chichester, West Sussex, and in 1984 received some unsought publicity after sacking his head gamekeeper. The gamekeeper, who had taken his mistress to live with him in his tied cottage, took Benson to an industrial tribunal — but Benson won.

Not that Benson had much time for recreation. He worked to an intimidating schedule which took up his weekends and, at the age of 80, wrote and published his autobiography, *Accounting for Life*. He could quote extensively from poets like Tennyson and Wordsworth — and always paid tribute to his education in South Africa.

A tall, big, strong man both in terms of his physique and personality, he could seem an intimidating figure in most respects. His apparent severity and conservatism, however, cloaked a deeply-seated sense of humanity and humour.

His austerity was also counterbalanced by his outgoing, warm-hearted wife Ginny, whom he married in 1939 and who travelled with him everywhere. They had two sons and a daughter.

JACK PITCHFORD

Jack Pitchford, CBE, engineer, died on February 24 aged 90. He was born on August 30, 1904.



IN A career spent entirely with one firm, Ricardo Consulting Engineers, Jack Pitchford played an important role in the development of high-speed diesel engines for both cars and naval craft. In the 1960s, as managing director and chairman of Ricardos, he spent most of his time leading a small, close-knit team advising clients throughout the world on all aspects of internal combustion engineering.

Jack Pitchford came from a family with a strong tradition of engineering. His maternal grandfather, Wilson "Pasha", had commissioned the first iron *dahabeeyah* (a large Nile sailing boat) so it was natural that Pitchford should become an engineer too. He took great pride in that professional title and great exception to the way in which its currency has now been debased and used by those without proper engineering training.

John Hereward Pitchford was born in Penarth, South Wales. But shortly thereafter his father died and his mother moved to the Sussex coast, where he was to spend the rest of his life. After attending Brighton College he went up to Christ's College, Cambridge, to read engineering. By his own account he enjoyed Cambridge life to the full and as a result only just scraped a degree. But when he came down in 1926 his stepfather, who was a partner in Rendel, Palmer & Tritton, obtained an introduction for him to Harry Ricardo and he went to work in his design office and laboratory at Shoreham-by-Sea.

Pitchford proved himself to be a sound and inventive engineer, although he would have been the first to admit that he was not in the class of Ricardo himself. But he had other qualities, including a natural ability to get on with people of all ages, backgrounds and nationalities, coupled with a gift for gentle persuasion. These qualities made him an effective manager and a highly successful promoter of the Ricardo services not only in this country, but in Europe and further afield. He worked, for example, with Citroën to produce in 1936 one of the first diesel-engined cars to be placed on the market.

During the Second World War the "works" were evacuated from the coast to the safer environs of Oxford, where most of their efforts were deployed on aircraft engine design and development. Pitchford himself also played a particularly prominent part at that time in the development of engines for motor torpedo boats. After the war, when Ricardos returned to Shoreham, he became managing director and picked up the threads of the commercial application of the Ricardo-designed Comet combustion system for small diesel engines.

Thanks to his extensive travelling, which involved him in visiting all the major motor engine manufacturers in this country, mainland Europe, the United States, India and Japan, Comet attained an important share of the market. In 1962 Ricardos became a public company and Pitchford became chairman, an office he held until 1976. During that time he oversaw a big expansion of Ricardos, in terms of plant, equipment and staff, but more importantly in its client base. In 1971 he was appointed CBE for his services to export.

His fellow engineers also recognised his worth. Between 1961 and 1963 he was president of the Fédération Internationale des Sociétés d'Ingénieurs des Techniques de l'Automobile and in 1962 of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers. In 1980 he was elected to the Fellowship of Engineering (now the Royal Academy of Engineering).

Pitchford had many interests outside engineering, including music and sailing. In his earlier years he had been a keen rugby player. He was a kind and generous man with an interest in other people, especially aspiring young engineers.

Pitchford married Betty Pensotti in 1930; she died in 1991 and he is survived by their son and two daughters.

HUGO COLE

Hugo Cole, music critic, died on March 2 aged 77. He was born on July 6, 1917.

WHILE most orchestral musicians graduate from their chosen college before entering an orchestra, Hugo Cole was appearing in the cello section of the Hallé long before he entered the Royal College of Music. But after a short period as a musician and as a highly-productive composer he spent the last 30 years entertaining readers of *The Guardian*, *Country Life* and other publications with his extensive and knowledgeable music criticisms. These were authoritative and intellectual yet never carried any air of pedantry or pretentiousness.

The son of a prosperous Wagner-loving barrister, who specialised in marriage settlements, Hugo Cole was blessed with an enthusiastic piano teacher and, when he went to Winchester, learnt the horn and cello as well as actively participating in the school choir. Declining the opportunity to take his musical studies to a higher level, Cole read natural sciences at King's College, Cambridge, followed by a year doing research into the movement of cockroaches' legs.

As a conscientious objector, Cole applied to join the Friends Ambulance Unit during the Second World War but was turned down on the ground of his appalling stammer. Over the years he endured numerous treatments for this impediment but it was at the suggestion of his wife Gwyneth, whom he married in 1949, that Cole became interested in the Alexander Technique. This method of relaxation, practised today by many musicians, freed up his entire body posture and ultimately led to near-perfect speech when he attained his mid-forties.

Although he had opted for the Natural Sciences Tripos at Cambridge, Cole was nevertheless a musician of sufficient standard to freelance in the cello section of both the Hallé Orchestra and the D'Oyly Carte Opera Company during the war. His entry to the Royal College of Music in 1944 — in order, he claimed, to learn how to play the instrument properly — opened an entire new world to him. He studied the cello with Ivor James, harmony with R. O. Morris, and composition with Herbert Howells and also spent two valuable and enjoyable summers in Paris studying composition with Nadia Boulanger who would often insist that he came for his lessons at 6.30am. Her coaching was to have an important influence on his compositions.

After he left the Royal College, performance quickly lost its attraction for Cole, although he continued to freelance with various London orchestras. Instead, he became a prolific composer writing a great deal of music for amateur choirs (which he felt were often neglected by others). Five of his seven operas — for some of which he also wrote the librettos — were written for children, including *Asses' Ears* in 1950 for Rokeby Preparatory School in Wimbledon. In 1959 he won the John Lewis Partnership prize for *The Tunnel*, another opera for large voices, in this case predominantly male voices.

His composition was decidedly English and, as a result, Cole found himself swimming against an avant garde tide. Once he was appointed to be a critic on *The Guardian* in 1965, he effectively gave up the writing of music altogether (although a final children's opera, *The Fair Traders*, and a piece for chamber orchestra, *Winter Meetings* did appear in the early 1970s).

Cole later confessed that he found writing notes very difficult whereas words seemed to come to him easily. With his stammer cured, Cole had no problem dictating overnight copy. He soon became appreciated as a well-informed and knowledgeable critic.

He wrote four books including *Sounds and Signs* (1975), a study of modern notation, *The Changing Face of Music* (1978) and an appreciation of Malcolm Arnold, a composer whom he greatly admired. Cole's writing frequently appeared in other publications and he was well loved for his page in *Country Life* which he never quite managed to let go of, despite frequently asking colleagues if they would like to take it over.

Music was very much at the centre of Hugo Cole's life. Regularly turning up for the Proms at the Royal Albert Hall on a bicycle, he was a shy, unassuming character who was held in high regard by all sectors of the music profession. He enjoyed the company of a close circle of friends with whom he would often play chamber music for pleasure.

He is survived by his wife Gwyneth and their two daughters.

THELMA HULBERT

Thelma Hulbert, artist, died at Honiton, Devon, on February 17 aged 81. She was born on November 10, 1913.



THELMA HULBERT's name was inextricably linked with those of Victor Pasmore, William Coldstream and Claude Rogers, the founders of the Euston Road school of drawing and painting, which flourished briefly in Fitzrovia in the late 1930s, and for which Hulbert acted as organising secretary. Elsie Few, the wife of Claude Rogers, described Hulbert as the "hinge upon which the whole school hung, the one person who was always there".

The school's guiding principles, as much political as artistic, were based on the idea that artists needed to renounce Surrealism, Cubism and other contemporary fashions and get back to recording things objectively. Work took place in two large, sparsely-furnished rooms over a pin-table saloon on the north side of Euston Road, with Hulbert stationed at a table near the entrance to the studio, greeting students and radiating, as one recalled, "shy, contained, uncensorious affability". She was a striking woman, with black hair, dark eyes and a distinctive way of dressing, and she made an excellent artist's model. Pasmore painted a particularly lovely portrait of her seated in a high-backed Victorian armchair, looking very serious and young.

Hulbert's own talents as an artist tended to be underrated, partly because of her reticence with art dealers and her lack of interest in the commercial aspects of art. Her subjects, too, were largely domestic interiors decorated with windows, screens, blinds and flowers, or creatures such as fish, birds and moths. Because of this, she ran the danger of being dismissed as "feminine".

In fact, she painted very well, and in something of the style of Bonnard or the later Turner. Like Turner, she was expert at conveying space, air and light, and she did not need to drench a canvas in paint in order to ensure that a particular tone achieved its proper impact.

She was born in Bath, an only child of English parents, but with French and Spanish ancestry. She studied at the Bath School of Art before moving to London in 1934, where she met Pasmore, Coldstream and Rogers. Her painting was at first subsidised by teaching dance classes — poverty being one of the many things she had in common with the founding triumvirate of the Euston Road school. Though the latter were all well regarded in artistic circles, they relied on the patronage of an older generation of Bloomsbury artists to help with the rent of the Euston Road studios.

Hulbert spent the war years feeding Spanish refugees in a London canteen and helping animals caught up in the Blitz. The school never recovered from the interruption of the war — one of its leading exponents, Graham Bell, was killed in the RAF and Victor Pasmore made a startling conversion to abstract paintings and collages in 1948. Hulbert had by this time turned to teaching, first at the Camden School for Girls, in the 1940s and 1950s, and then at the Central School of Arts and Crafts in the 1960s.

She lived at first in an artists' commune in Mecklenburgh Square with the painter Merlyn Evans, the pianist Margery Few and the cellist Penelope Sims. After this household broke up, she moved to a new studio, a vast, airy old conservatory behind one of the villas on Holland Park, where her painting flourished. The nearby Hyde Park was a constant source of inspiration, as were expeditions to Cornwall, Switzerland, Italy, Africa and America. There were several exhibitions of her work in London, including a retrospective at the Whitechapel Art Gallery in 1962.

Although she had many admirers, Thelma Hulbert never married. She retired to Honiton in Devon with her cats, and continued to work until her last illness, surrounded by an orderly profusion of canvases.

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SERVIA

BERLIN, March 6.

The news of the elevation of Servia to a kingdom has taken Berlin somewhat by surprise. It was known, of course, that negotiations on the subject had been in progress for some time back between the Government of Prince Milan and the Powers, but people were not prepared for such a sudden lifting of the curtain and a *fait accompli*. It is known that Germany and Austria were agreed on the question in the main. The reception accorded to Prince Milan when he visited this Court last year in the course of his canvassing tour among the European Courts left no doubt as to how the two Imperial allies had resolved to give their vote ...

An event which has long been planned, talked about, and regarded as probable, has suddenly come to pass. Yesterday the Skuptschina unanimously offered the Royal dignity to PRINCE MILAN, who accepted it, and was at once proclaimed King of Servia. The new KING, whose name was so brought prominently before the world by the events of 1876-7, is a member of the OBRENOVITCH family and is a cousin of the late PRINCE MICHAEL who was assassinated in 1868 ...

The conversion of the principality into a kingdom is an event of considerable political importance. It is the natural and logical consequence of the elevation of the PRINCE of ROUMANIA, and both must be regarded as the direct outcome of the war. For, to change a Prince into a King is more than a mere change of name and more than a personal advance in dignity, such as the change of an English Marquis into a Duke. It sets the seal of monarchical Europe upon the independence of the new kingdom. It is often easy, no doubt, for a great State to absorb a small and insignificant neighbour; but under the monarchical system of this Continent it is very much easier to do so if the ruler of the smaller State bears an inferior title, a title which seems to imply a kind of vassalage to some overlord or other. The change of title, then, which has taken place in Roumania and in Servia is the official guarantee of the independence promised in the Berlin settlement. The peculiar importance of the step, in the case of Servia and at this particular moment, must be apparent to every one. The PRINCE of SERVIA has been long and anxiously striving to get the honour conferred on him, or rather, to get the consent of his powerful neighbours to the step. Austria, it was understood, held back; she wished for guarantees or she wished for terms. Suddenly, and without a moment's warning, the Skuptschina proclaims the PRINCE King of Servia, and the Austrian representative hastens to the Palace with the congratulations of the EMPEROR FRANCIS JOSEPH. It is evident that this means that the terms have been arranged. Austria is in the crisis of her struggle with the revolted provinces. It is of the highest importance for Austria to secure not only the neutrality, but the benevolent neutrality of Servia; and this we may assume her to have secured by granting the claim of the Prince to the Royal title ...

ON THIS DAY

March 7 1882

Serbia, with other Balkan states, was part of the Ottoman empire from the 15th century, but in the late 19th century she became subject to the tortuous politics of Austria and Russia. In 1899 King Milan abdicated in favour of his son Alexander.

Fifty firms face loss of enterprise hive

BY RODNEY HOBSON

MORE than 50 small businesses on a site in the centre of Staines, Surrey, face eviction from the old linoleum factory that they occupy. They say there is nowhere else in the area suitable to take them and, if they go, 1,300 jobs will be lost.

The businesses include printing, engineering, computers, air conditioning, and a firm providing stunts for films. They occupy unit 18 on the Staines Central Trading Estate, and some have been there for 18 years.

MEPC, the property developer, bought the 17-acre estate in January. Other buildings are gradually becoming empty, but unit 18 remains packed with enterprises.

MEPC had already asked Spelthorne Council for planning consent for a new business park before it bought the site. This is common practice, since developers like to test the attitude of planning authorities before they buy. Spelthorne indicated that it would take time to examine the complicated proposal, but that permission was not likely to be granted.

MEPC exercised its right to appeal to the Department of the Environment without waiting for a formal ruling. However, the company has twice sought a three-month postponement of the appeal hearing, raising hopes that a compromise can be reached.

Liz Malcolm, of Spelthorne Council, said that it would prefer a mixed development, including some retailing, that would leave unit 18 intact. She said that talks with MEPC are continuing, adding: "We are content to continue discussions. This is an important town-centre site."

Small businesses in the unit do not sign leases, but receive six-month licences. Licences are not being issued to run beyond June, leaving occupants in limbo.

Mary Knight, of Riverside Scanning, says: "The unit is built like a bunker. It has industrial lifts and can take forklift trucks so it is able to take an amazing variety of businesses. We share loos, faxes and photocopiers and there is a guard on at night. No one here knows anywhere else like it.

"Why lay waste an industrial area just to build empty offices?"



"Sorry — the idea is you grow smaller so we can grow bigger"

Drawn to a material world

BY TIM BAIRSTOW

THE rugged Scottish coastline is inspiring one of the country's most innovative fashion designers.

Jacqui Burke's creations have been the centre of attention at fashion shows in Munich, Paris and Tokyo. Her latest collection will feature during London Fashion Week, starting on Saturday.

Her workshop — "studio is too pretentious a word, this is where I work" — overlooks the Firth of Forth and the Isle of May, and she is resisting pressure to move from her native Dunbar, East Lothian. "This is where I draw my inspiration. I have to visit London and I travel overseas all through the year, but I come back here to breathe. Nature provides me with a never-ending source of inspiration."

The balcony of her apartment in Lauderdale House, the former mansion of the Earls of Lauderdale, looks over the ancient fortress of Dunbar Castle to The Yetts, the rocks that provide a sea-door to the fishing harbour. "I can look outside at the sea and the rocks and say 'Look at that shape, I can use that'."

Jacqui graduated as top student from the Scottish College of Textiles in 1986 and opened her workshop in 1989. Her debut collection was shown at The London Designer Show, forerunner of Fashion Week, in 1991. Since then, she has dressed clients in Europe and America, including Gloria Estefan and Cher, but is now concentrating on her collections for 1996. Her exclusive designs, featuring mohair and a new, dense microfabric — "much like chamois leather, wonderful to touch" — are expensive. However, she says: "You do not need to be wealthy to be able to afford couture. If you like something and it is good quality, it will last for ever."

GARY ANTHONY



Jacqui Burke's fashion designs are inspired by the natural landscapes of her native Scotland

Jacqui has turned down job offers from internationally known retailers and manufacturers to remain independent. "I thought if I moved from Scotland and got used to a steady income I would lose the incentive to develop on my own.

"It has been a financial struggle, and cash flow can still be a problem. After London Fashion Week, for example, I will be selecting and buying fabrics for my Spring/Summer '96 collection, which will not be launched until October this year."

The launch, being planned for Edinburgh, will follow a return visit to Japan in May. Jacqui was one of about 50 exhibitors invited by The British Knitting and Clothing Council to take part in British Fashion '95 in Tokyo in January.

A determined ambassador for Scottish fashion, Jacqui said: "I like sophisticated, timeless designs, but I can get too involved and sometimes I am working all night. Inspiration always seems to come to me just as I am about to go to sleep and I have to get up and draw."

BRIEFINGS

Small businesses with National Westminster Bank loans will now receive written guidance on the circumstances in which they would be in default and liable to repay immediately. Examples include not making a repayment on time, using the money for a purpose that had not been agreed or disposing of the asset bought with the loan.

☐ *Action for Rural Enterprise*, a free guide to the network of financial and other business assistance available in rural England has been updated and enlarged by the Rural Development Commission. Contact: Information Section, RDC, Freepost SAI22, 141 Castle Street, Salisbury SP1 3BR.

☐ Hawtec, the training and enterprise council covering Hereford and Worcester, has launched Skills Search Fifty, a campaign to help to find work for more than 2,000 people over the age of 50 who are unemployed in the county. Individuals will be matched with vacancies, and employers will be encouraged to test employees over a three-week work trial period.

☐ *Microsoft*, the computer software group, is holding seminars for small businesses and home-workers at the National Computer Shopper Show at the National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham, on March 16-19. Topics include boosting a firm's image by producing professional-looking documents, and better business planning and marketing.

EDITED BY DEREK HARRIS

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4/50CX 340MB	486DX2/50MHZ	8MB	TFT COLOUR	2530
4/75C 340MB	486DX4/75MHZ	8MB	DS COLOUR	2375
4/75C 510MB	486DX4/75MHZ	8MB	DS COLOUR	2545
4/75CX 340MB	486DX4/75MHZ	8MB	TFT COLOUR	2970
4/75CX 510MB	486DX4/75MHZ	8MB	TFT COLOUR	3140
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Duty-free goods worth £20 with Le Shuttle and Linguaphone tapes, each for the price of *The Times*

20p deals to take into Europe

TODAY *The Times* looks across the Channel with its 20p promotions, offering bargains when you travel on Le Shuttle and a very special deal on Linguaphone language guides.

Collect tokens from *The Times*, take a five-day break with your car on Le Shuttle and for the price of Britain's greatest newspaper you can buy a voucher which will give you duty-free goods worth £20. Le Shuttle is Britain's new route under the sea to Europe. Drive to the passenger terminal near Folkestone and you are assured of a quick and easy journey through the Channel tunnel.

In addition to your 20p duty free goods offer you will also receive vouchers entitling you to half-price accommodation at more than 170 hotels in eight European countries.

You can make your trip more rewarding and enjoyable by learning to speak and understand the languages of the countries you plan to visit with the help of Linguaphone, the world's leading language tuition company. Collect the tokens which will be appearing this week and on Monday and you will be entitled to buy up to three Linguaphone Traveller's Guides, which normally sell for £2.79 each, for only 20p each.

Linguaphone Traveller's Guides are available in French, German, Italian, Spanish, Greek and Portuguese. Buy one or more and you will also receive a voucher worth £50 if you decide to buy a full language course.

Languages covered by the courses include Afrikaans, Arabic, Danish, Dutch, English, Finnish, French, German, Greek, Hebrew, Hindi, Icelandic, Indonesian, Irish, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Malay, Mandarin, Norwegian, Polish, Portuguese, Russian, Serbo-Croat, Spanish, Latin American Spanish, Swedish, Thai and Welsh.

There is still time for readers to book their holiday at a 20 per cent discount or qualify for a weekend break for 20p. The booking deadline for this recent offer, which included a huge variety of holidays from leading operators, has been extended to March 31, 1995.

For holiday brochures and details, call Cox & Kings on 0171-873 5005. If you have missed the tokens you can still qualify for the offer by sending four Times mastheads with your booking form.

Last week's audio books offer is still open. Buy one unabridged book from a list of 200 volumes and you can buy a second of up to eight cassettes for just 20p. For full details ring 0800 136 919. If you missed this promotion you can still participate by sending eight Times mastheads with your order.



Le Shuttle: a car and all passengers for £75 return, and for just 20p you can buy £20 worth of duty-free goods

Duty-free bonanza

THE first of this week's 20p offers brings you the opportunity to travel on Le Shuttle, the new and exciting route to France. Collect four of the six tokens which are appearing this week and next Monday, buy a Try The Tunnel break and you can receive £20 worth of duty-free goods for just 20p.

Eurotunnel's new service is the quickest and easiest way to drive to the continent and readers can enjoy exceptional value with this exclusive short break offer from EuroDrive. The spacious Le Shuttle passenger terminal at Folkestone features shops, restaurants, telephones, toilets, ample parking and, of course, the Duty & Tax Free Shop.

Stock up on a wide range of duty-free goods — wines, spirits, liqueurs, tobacco, perfumes or gifts — and *The Times* will take care of the first £20 of your bill for 20p.

All you need to do to take advantage of this great offer is to buy a short break return ticket (five-day duration for a car and all passengers) for travel before April 30 1995 at £75 (the normal fare in April is £150).

You will automatically receive a pack containing your duty-free voucher with your tickets. The offer excludes travel on April 14, 15 and 16.

As a special bonus, readers of *The Times* will receive an accommodation brochure and two vouchers with every booking, entitling them and a guest to a 50 per cent discount on the standard rate for a twin or double room for up to three nights at more than 170 hotels in eight European countries.

Readers are not obliged to redeem these vouchers with the tunnel offer; they can be used at any time throughout the year and are ideal for either overnight stops on the way to a main holiday destination, or for a short break.

Many of the hotels are in the main sightseeing centres of France, Holland and Germany and they can also be found in five other European countries.

You book your chosen hotel accommodation yourself. The maximum forward booking period is usually 14 days and the booking procedure is very simple.

Just choose the hotel in which you wish to stay and phone the number listed in the brochure (most of the numbers are UK central reservations numbers) and say that you would like to make a half-price Europe reservation. (Local numbers are also supplied so that bookings can be made while touring, subject to availability.)

In addition, readers can choose to take advantage of special savings on travel and motor breakdown insurance from Europ Assistance.

You are not obliged to take our insurance as a condition of this offer but you are recommended to do so. Motor breakdown insurance for up to five days is £22 and personal insurance cover is £8.50 per person.

Children under 14 are half price and infants aged up to three are given free cover.

How to book for Le Shuttle

1. Applications must be on the official *Times* booking form (photocopies are acceptable) and sent to *The Times* Try The Tunnel Offer, EuroDrive, The Broadway, 3-5 Crouch End Hill, London, N8 8DH to arrive no later than ten days before your date of travel. You must attach four of the six special tokens which will be appearing this week and next Monday.
2. Return tunnel crossing travel must be completed by midnight on April 30, 1995.
3. All bookings are subject to restricted availability and spaces are offered on a first-come-first-served basis. If Le Shuttle cannot provide crossings due to lack of availability or service on the requested dates, we reserve the right to offer alternative dates. Readers allocated a crossing outside their first and second choice dates may cancel their booking without penalty.
4. Tickets for Le Shuttle are sold on an unreserved basis and the service is turn-up-and-go. Le Shuttle has no facility to book specific crossings.
5. A maximum of 16 people may travel in each car, providing the number travelling does not exceed the manufacturer's recommended capacity. There is no length restriction but maximum height is strictly 1.85 metres, including any roof load. Motorcycles, cycles, caravans, camper vans, trailers, coaches, commercial vehicles and foot passengers cannot be booked.
6. No responsibility can be taken for lost or damaged applications and proof of postage will not be accepted as proof of receipt.
7. The offer cannot be combined with any other offer, saving or discount scheme and is for return travel only. The duty-free vouchers issued as part of this offer are not transferable or exchangeable for cash, and are valid for redemption at the passenger terminal duty-free shop at Folkestone on the date of travel only.
8. Cancellations, alterations and amendments will be accepted only in writing by recorded post and a charge of £30 per booking will be made. Insurance premiums, where paid as part of this offer, are not refundable.
9. Tickets will be issued subject to Eurotunnel's standard conditions of carriage.
10. Each booking will receive a brochure containing two hotel vouchers along with the travel documents. Brochures cannot be supplied before booking. Each voucher entitles two people to a 50% discount off the normal rack rate on a twin or double room for up to three nights at any one of the featured hotels. Note that the Mercure Altea Hotels featured apply a three-tier price band: low (white), shoulder (pink) and high (red). The half-price tariff is 50% of the shoulder (pink) price, but availability can include all price bands.
11. All hotel bookings must be made by readers directly with chosen hotels. The maximum forward booking period is usually 14 days. All bookings are subject to availability. The two vouchers can be used together to provide stays in the same hotel of longer than three days where applicable. Certain hotels have a minimum stay of two nights.
12. EuroDrive is a fully bonded member of Abta, number D1175. For further details, call 0181 342 8979.



Café society: Le Shuttle can put you en route to the sunshine

Your 20p gateway to learning new languages

TO KNOW the country, first know the language. *The Times*, in conjunction with Linguaphone, the world's leading language company, now offers you that opportunity for just a few pence.

Buy one Linguaphone Traveller's Guide for £2.79 and you can buy another for 20p. If you then go on to buy a full language course you will receive a reduction of £50 on normal prices that start from £170 — and receive a free personal stereo.

The Traveller's Guide is the ideal way to familiarise yourself with the essential words and phrases you will need for your next trip abroad. The guide contains a 70-minute bilingual language cassette which offers a good basic introduction to the language and is ideal for use in the car or on a personal stereo. With the cassette comes a words and phrases guide, featuring a printed list of the most important words and phrases in the cassette. In its convenient pocket-size form, the guide ensures you will always have the right phrase at your fingertips.

Traveller's Guides are available in French, German, Italian, Spanish, Greek and Portuguese.

A voucher worth £50 is included in the pack, redeemable against the purchase of one of Linguaphone's more detailed language courses.

The company offers a choice of 30 languages and a selection of course formats that includes tapes, CDs and videos. With a Linguaphone language course, you start speaking a new language from the first lesson. In as little as three months, after just 30 minutes' study each day, you could be speaking a new language with confidence.

There are no gimmicks, no complicated grammar rules or confusing lists of tenses; simply a proven practical method already used by more than six million people. With Linguaphone, you do not have to commit yourself to the restrictions of an evening class. You can study where and when it suits you, whether at home, commuting to work or in the car. Your "classroom" is wherever you feel most comfortable.

The success of this course is based on the proven Linguaphone method of "listen, understand, speak", which is similar to the way a child learns to speak. Listening to Linguaphone tapes is a relaxing, involving way to learn and you quickly become familiar with the sounds and rhythms of the new language.

Once you are familiar with the spoken language, you begin to use the handbook. This provides a complete translation of all the words and phrases used.

Linguaphone has more than 60 years experience in the field and has taught millions of people to speak other languages. Your course is there for you to use as often as you like and you can share it with your family and friends, giving them the opportunity to acquire invaluable language skills at no extra cost.

You can listen to your course on any cassette player. But in case you want to study on the move or without disturbing anybody, when you order a full course you will also receive a free personal stereo.

All Linguaphone courses are covered by a full money-back guarantee, so you can try your course for two weeks and make sure it is right for you. If not, return it and you will receive a full refund.

To find out more about Linguaphone's range of language courses and its unique learning method, collect the tokens for the Traveller's Guide offer and send off for your two cassette packs. We will send you your guides plus full details of our £50 discount and free personal stereo offer. You can also phone their Advice Line free on 0800 282 417.

Today and each day until next Monday, *The Times* is publishing a Linguaphone Traveller's Guide token, making six in all. Collect two tokens and you can apply for one guide at the full price of £2.79 and buy a second for 20p. Collect four and you can apply for two full-price guides and two for 20p each. Collect six and you can buy three full-price guides and a further three for just 20p each.

When you have collected the required tokens, complete the coupon below and send together with a cheque or postal order for £2.79 plus 20p for two guides, £5.58 plus 40p for four or £8.37 plus 60p for six.



Language problem? Linguaphone's comprehensive self-teach kit will solve it

A history of bridging the divides

As travelling for both business and pleasure increases, learning a language becomes more important. Many learn a new language using audio tapes and guides like those available on the Linguaphone courses.

Linguaphone has helped more than six million people learn a new language. The company operates in more than 60 countries and there are now about 500 courses in 30 different languages.

The company was founded in the early 1900s by a Polish immigrant language teacher. It pioneered the use of Edison's sound cylinders, Bell's wax cylinders and the gramophone in teaching languages. In those early days, innovations included the Linguaphone "repeater", which enabled students to position the arm of their gramophone on a groove to hear words again and again. The "solophone" meant students could listen through earphones without disturbing the rest of the household.

George Bernard Shaw praised the Linguaphone courses. Professor Higgins and Colonel Pickering used some of the techniques very successfully to improve Eliza Doolittle's pronunciation in Shaw's *Pygmalion*.

Linguaphone now produces language courses for businessmen, students, travellers and children. The Linguaphone Traveller's Survival Guide is an easy way to familiarise yourself with all the essential words and phrases you will need to enjoy your next business trip or holiday abroad.

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THE TIMES TOKEN 1 EuroDrive TRAVEL CLUB

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This offer closes on June 30, 1995. Prices include postage and packing.

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Offer applies to UK and Channel Islands only.

THE TIMES TOKEN ONE LINGUAPHONE

THE TIMES TODAY

TUESDAY MARCH 7 1995

NEWS

Minister resigns to save marriage

■ John Major lost another senior member of his Government yesterday when Robert Hughes, the Public Service and Science Minister, admitted an extra-marital affair and resigned to try to save his marriage.

In the latest in a chapter of scandals that has dogged the Government, Mr Hughes left office, saying he had put unacceptable pressure on his marriage..... **Pages, 1, 8**

Court clears Barings takeover

■ The High Court gave permission for ING, the Dutch bank, to rescue Barings, the merchant bank that collapsed owing £860 million, after most of the directors said they would forgo their bonuses. The deal was almost scuppered by a protest from Barings bondholders who stand to lose almost £100 million despite the purchase..... **Pages, 1, 2, 23, 25, 27**

Share options

The controversy over executive pay took a further twist when Labour said that British Gas had awarded a million share options to six directors late last year, with no announcement to shareholders or the public..... **Page 1**

Legal aid

The Lord Chancellor is questioning "the whole future" of the £432-a-year criminal legal aid scheme after repeated failures of his department to ensure adequate controls on the grant of legal aid, MPs were told..... **Page 1**

Kissing space

A Scottish boarding school has told pupils they will be disciplined if caught within six inches of each other in a bid to stop displays of affection..... **Page 1**

Boy, 4, gagged

A four-year-old boy with asthma was bound and gagged with sticky tape by his nursery teacher as punishment for clapping in class..... **Page 3**

Children return

Three of the children at the centre of the Ayrshire child abuse case met their parents for the first time in five years..... **Page 4**

Peseta troubles

In a performance bordering on farce, the European Commission tried to shrug off the devaluation of the Spanish peseta and the escudo..... **Pages 9, 16, 17, 23**

Good neighbours

A high-security housing scheme designed to turn anti-social families into model neighbours has been approved despite fears that it will become a problem families' ghetto..... **Page 5**

Iraq mission

France opened a diplomatic mission in Iraq as Britain and other Western governments were considering a possible UN resolution that would ease the sale of Iraqi oil..... **Page 13**

More homes

An extra 4.4 million houses and flats will be needed in England over the next 20 years for the rapidly growing number of people who want a home of their own..... **Page 6**

Great survivor

One of the best known images of the Second World War is that of the twin Gothic towers of Cologne Cathedral standing miraculously intact above the surrounding rubble..... **Page 7**

China defence

China announced an increase of 21 per cent in defence spending, a decision that is likely to create fresh anxiety in South East Asia..... **Page 11**

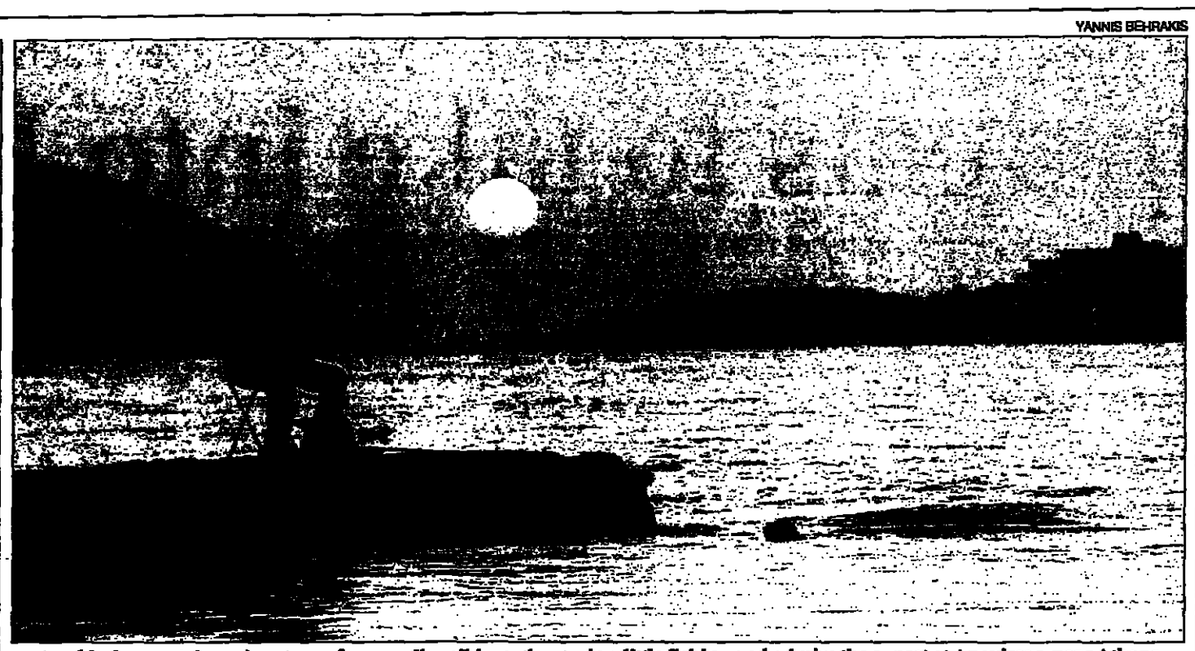
Croatia deal

European Union foreign ministers agreed in principle to conclude a trade and co-operation deal with Croatia..... **Page 12**

Diplomats do it on the cheap

■ Diplomats have been ordered to fly economy class on all flights of less than four hours, to search out special fares and to surrender to the Foreign Office their collection of "air miles". On long-haul trips to Tokyo or Sydney they may travel business class, providing they stay for only a day or two; a longer trip obliges them to take cheaper fares..... **Page 9**

YANNIS BEHRAKIS



An elderly man takes advantage of unusually mild weather to do a little fishing and admire the sunset at Anavissos, near Athens

BUSINESS

Water bid: There was initial hostility to news of the first takeover bid for a privatised water company after a conditional offer for Northumbrian Water from Lyonnaise des Eaux of France..... **Page 23**

Currency turmoil: European politicians fought an ever more desperate public relations campaign, defending their plans to move to a single currency, even as sterling, the French franc and the escudo sank to record lows against the mark..... **Page 23**

Markets: Currency jitters saw the FT-SE 100 index close 23.2 points lower, at 3,001.9. Sterling's trade-weighted index fell from 87.9 to 87.7 after a drop from DM2.3294 to DM2.3021 and a rise from $1.6250 to $1.6412..... **Page 26**

SPORT

Athletics: Linford Christie has withdrawn from the world indoor championships because of tiredness. He is replaced by Mike Rosswess..... **Page 44**

Cricket: A demand for improved wages by the Cricketers' Association, which represents English professional players, will raise hackles at the Test and County Cricket Board..... **Page 44**

Football: The Football Association has refused to allow Chris Armstrong, of Crystal Palace, to resume playing. Armstrong failed a drugs test two weeks ago..... **Page 44**

Yachting: *oneAustralia*, the boat with which the Australians hoped to regain the America's Cup, broke in two and sank during trial races off San Diego..... **Page 42**

ARTS

Visual adventure: The Tate in Liverpool has secured the first British exhibition of the German painter Sigmar Polke; while a new arts centre in Croydon opens with a show of Picasso..... **Page 37**

Beasties back: "The crotch-fumbling has vanished, to be replaced with rhymes about respecting women," writes Louise Gray about the return of the Beastie Boys to Brixton Academy..... **Page 38**

Doll's house: Birmingham Royal Ballet has opened its new production of *Coppélia*, with fine designs by Peter Farmer..... **Page 38**

Susannah on the fringe: After Rigg in Islington and Fiennes in Hackney, Susannah York also appears on the London fringe, at the Latchmere..... **Page 36**

FEATURES

Colleague caresses: The British stiff upper lip is a thing of the past, says Nigella Lawson, for every last one is now puckered up for the squishiest of embraces..... **Page 15**

Lost at sea: Nineteen bulk carriers sank last year, 14 years after Marion Bayliss's husband went down with the *MV Derbyshire*. Margot Norman on the inquiry that is finally being held into what happened..... **Page 15**

Driven to dozing: Falling asleep while driving along the motorway may be due to narcolepsy, says Dr Thomas Stuttaford..... **Page 14**

LAW

Private lives: Antony Whitaker discovers a right of privacy law hidden away in a ruling made years ago..... **Page 35**



TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

■ CULTURE CAPITAL
Where in the world would you go to find the finest in the performing arts?

■ CHEZ NOUS
The no-nonsense guide to buying a property in France without tears

THE PAPERS

In Algeria, Islamic terrorists assassinate feminists, journalists and secular intellectuals in the streets. But it would serve no interest to declare war on Islam, with its hundreds of millions of peaceable believers

The New York Times

Winnie Mandela is charged by police with defrauding four impoverished black communities. The continuing descent of this former heroine of the anti-apartheid struggle is an individual tragedy, not a metaphor for the ANC

The New York Times

TV LISTINGS

Preview: Clive James has fun with a Trabant, but finds the Nazis beyond a joke. *Postcard From Berlin* (BBC1, 9.30pm). **Review:** Matthew Bond says hello again to Dolly, Lynda La Plante's female gang boss..... **Page 43**

OPINION

Peseta power

France will now see it as essential to avoid being contaminated by Spain's devaluation. But the history of the ERM suggests it is unlikely to succeed..... **Page 17**

Life with Buggins

The case should serve as yet another warning to the world's leaders against the methods which plucked Mr Claes from relative obscurity in Belgium to the helm of the West's foremost security organisation..... **Page 17**

Code for kissing

The Greens have pioneered a perspective on modern kissing. But, as with the rest of manners, practice and the recipient are the truest teachers..... **Page 17**

COLUMNS

BERNARD LEVIN

Until the Government gives out two kinds of lapel-badge to beggars, one meaning "Genuinely starving" and the other "I'm taking you lot for a sucker", we cannot distinguish between them. So what is to be done?..... **Page 16**

ROBERT RHODES JAMES

Politics for the ambitious is cruelly competitive. In the sombre words of Francis Bacon: "There is little friendship in the world, and least of all between equals."..... **Page 16**

PETER RIDDELL

Labour has only got itself to blame for stories about party disarray over its proposals for regional assemblies in England. There is no real difference between what Tony Blair and John Prescott were saying. But the confusing impression that has been created is not a Tory invention..... **Page 8**

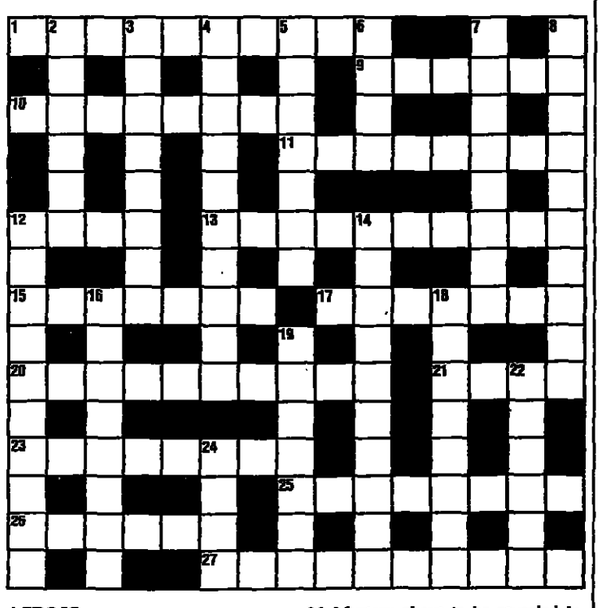
OBITUARIES

Lord Benson, former adviser to the Governor of the Bank of England; **Jack Pitchford**, engineer; **Hugo Cole**, music critic..... **Page 19**

LETTERS

GP fundholders' surpluses; dismissal from the C of E: getting better seats on planes..... **Page 17**

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,796



ACROSS

1 When abroad, stars create difficult situations (10)
9 One won't succeed on one's own (6)
10 A path that goes at an angle through the wood? (5-3)
11 Made amends for former relationship with a young thug (8)
12 Boat for a Malay (4)
13 The orchestra's leader toiled playing instrument (10)
15 Aggressive person's act? (7)
17 Is poem on record just one of a series listened to? (7)
20 Right wicked people may get it, not half (10)
21 Live briefly, turning blue (4)
23 'Eggs-diary' — it's possibly made by me? (8)
25 Guided around, I certainly may be taking things easily (8)
26 Mystery about to be revealed in religious faction (6)
27 Hormone provided by a doctor to woman with stroke (10)

DOWN

2 Stir created by publicity bod in Arab republic (6)
3 From what's said, is aware of prohibited equipment at Aintree (4-4)
4 Moulding and paintings turning up in singular collection of old stuff (10)
5 Number, say, inhabiting Bury (7)
6 Fish sinks, tail half disappearing (4)
7 Blasted out inner elementary particle (8)
8 After game leader advanced position (10)
12 How's Europe to be turned into an energetic driving force? (10)
14 Group presenting idea, not put any old how? (10)
16 Very much like material offered by poet (8)
18 The sun overarches one northern city and a midland town (8)
19 Novice taken in by crossword compiler may be a colonist (7)
22 Solution to a coot's problem — time with another bird! (6)
24 The smallest amount I won't eat — not even bits (4)

Solution to Puzzle No 19,795

P	E	R	T	I	N	E	N	T		C	O	R	G	I
L	I	D		N		H		O		E	S			
E	X	P	L	O	I	T		E	R	A	S	M	U	S
N		O		L		R		L		R		A		U
T	A	N	J	A		A	D	M	I	S	S	I	V	E
I		T		N		A		E		N				
F	L	A	T	R	A	C	E			E	D	I	T	
U		L		Y		E		F		S		E		A
L	O	L	L			C	O	N	T	O	R	T	S	
		O		P		A		O		O		T		
D	O	W	N	R	I	G	H	T		P	L	A	N	E
O		A		A		E		B		P		L		L
C	O	N	S	I	G	N		A	V	A	R	I	C	E
K		C		S		D		T		G		B		S
S	C	E	N	E		A	T	H	L	E	T	I	C	S

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TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0891 500 followed by the appropriate code.

Greater London	701
Kent,Surrey,Sussex	702
Dorset,Hants & IOW	703
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wilts,Glouca,Avon,Soms	705
Berks,Bucks,Oxon	706
Beds,Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk,Suffolk,Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops,Heralds & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness,Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

Weathercall is charged at 39p per minute (cheap rate) and 49p per minute at all other times.

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic/roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0336 401 followed by the appropriate code.

London & SE traffic, roadworks	
Area within M25	731
Essex/Herts/Beds/Bucks/Berks/Oxon	732
Kent/Surrey/Sussex/Hants	734
M25 London Orbital only	736
National traffic and roadworks	
National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 39p per minute (cheap rate) and 49p per minute at all other times.

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Sunday: Highest day temp: Salcombe and Torquay, Devon, 10C (50F); lowest day max: Aviemore, Tulloch Bridge and Loch Glascarnoch, Highland, 2C (36F); highest rainfall: Eskdalemuir, 0.83in; highest sunshine: Tiree, Hebrides, 7hr.

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FORECAST

A depression to the northwest of Ireland will spread rain and snow east across the country followed by a cold, showery, southwesterly airstream.

Rain and snow over the west of the UK will spread east in the morning. However, brighter weather with showers over Northern Ireland will follow the rain and snow, reaching most places by sunset.

In general it will be rather cold with a frost in many eastern areas at first. Strong southerly winds will add to the chill but as the rain and snow clears the winds will moderate for a time.

☐ **London, Central S, Central N, SE, NE, E England, E Anglia, E Midlands:** periods of heavy rain spreading east in the morning will be followed by clearer showery weather. Wind fresh or strong southerly winds veering southwest and moderating. Max 6C (43F).

☐ **W Midlands, Channel Isles, SW, NW England, N Wales:** rain in the morning will clear later for sunshine and heavy showers. Wind fresh or strong southwest veering west. Max 6C (43F).

☐ **Lake District, Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, SW, NW, NE Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Moray Firth, Argyll:** heavy rain, sleet and snow showers spreading east followed by clearer weather with heavy wintry showers. Wind south or southeast fresh veering south or southwest fresh or strong. Max 4C (39F).

☐ **Isle of Man, N Ireland:** clear intervals and heavy wintry showers. Wind southwest fresh or strong. Max 4C (39F).

☐ **Orkney, Shetland:** fine start, rain and sleet later. Wind east fresh. Max 4C (39F).

☐ **Outlook:** cold and showery with widespread overnight frost.

AROUND BRITAIN

24 hrs to 5 pm; b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

	Sun hrs	Rain in	C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	C	Max F	
Aberdeen	2.2	0.22	5	41	sh	Liverpool	2.9	0.17	7	45	h
Anglesey	4.1	0.13	8	46	sh	London	3.0	0.15	9	48	sh
Aspatria	0.9	0.46	6	43	h	Lowestoft	1.9	0.14	8	46	sh
Aviemore	0.3	0.07	2	36	sn	Manchester	1.8	0.24	9	48	h
Belfast	1.6	0.20	6	43	h	Margate	1.6	0.07	9	48	c
Birmingham	2.8	0.12	8	46	sh	Minehead	4.6	0.16	8	46	h
Bognor R	3.5	0.04	9	48	b	Morecambe	2.4	0.30	7	45	h
Boulmem'th	4.1	0.10	9	48	sh	Newcastle	5.4	0.04	7	45	sh
Bristol	3.9	0.13	10	50	s	Newquay	5.1	0.08	8	46	b
Buxton	1.7	0.45	4	39	sl	Norwich	1.1	0.16	7	45	c
Cardiff	4.0	0.08	8	46	h	Nottingham	X				
Clacton	0.7	0.10	7	45	sh	Oxford	3.8	0.10	9	48	r
Colwyn Bay	2.5	0.21	8	46	h	Penzance	5.6	0.28	10	50	sh
Cromer	1.9	0.19	7	45	b	Plymouth	5.7	0.11	9	48	sh
Doncaster	3.4	0.12	8	46	sh	Poole	4.2	0.15	9	48	sh
Dunbar	X					Prestatyn	X	0.11	7	45	sh
Eastbourne	X					Ross-o-wye	5.3	0.09	10	50	s
Edinburgh	4.1	0.08	7	45	b	Salcombe	6.6	0.15	10	50	s
Eskdalemuir	1.9	0.48	4	39	sn	Sandown	3.4	0.05	9	48	sh
Exmouth	5.3	0.15	9	48	h	Saunth Snd	4.9	0.09	8	46	s
Falmouth	X	0.34	9	48	sh	Scarboro'	4.2	0.16	7	45	s
Fishguard	3.8	0.27	6	43	h	Scilly Isles	5.8	0.11	8	46	s
Folkestone	2.1	0.08	9	48	sh	Shanklin	3.7	0.06	8	46	h
Glasgow	4.6	0.30	7	45	sh	Shrewsbury	3.5	0.13	8	46	sh
Guernsey	2.7	0.15	10	50	b	Skegness	X	0.12	6	43	sh
Hastings	2.4	0.08	9	48	sh	Southend	X				
Hayling I.	2.4	0.07	9	48	b	Southport	3.7	0.29	7	45	sh
Herne Bay	2.2	0.06	9	48	h	Southsea	3.3	0.07	9	48	s
Hove	2.7	0.04	9	48	b	Stornoway	2.7	0.41	5	41	sn
Hunstanton	2.4	0.16	7	45	sh	Swanage	3.7	0.05	9	48	b
Ilfracombe	X					Teignmouth	5.5	0.09	9	48	s
Isle of Man	4.4	-	7	45	sh	Tenby	5.3	0.26	8	46	h
Jersey	3.1	0.19	9	48	h	Tiree	3.4	0.07	7	45	sh
Kinloss	0.4	0.02	5	41	sh	Torquay	5.8	0.16	10	50	b
Leeds	5.2	0.25	8	46	sh	Tynemouth	5.7	0.03	7	45	b
Lerwick	2.1	0.08	4	39	sh	Ventnor	4.1	0.05	9	48	b
Leuchars	5.2	0.22	6	43	b	Weymouth	3.5	0.03	9	48	s
Littlehmptn	3.9	0.04	9	48	c						

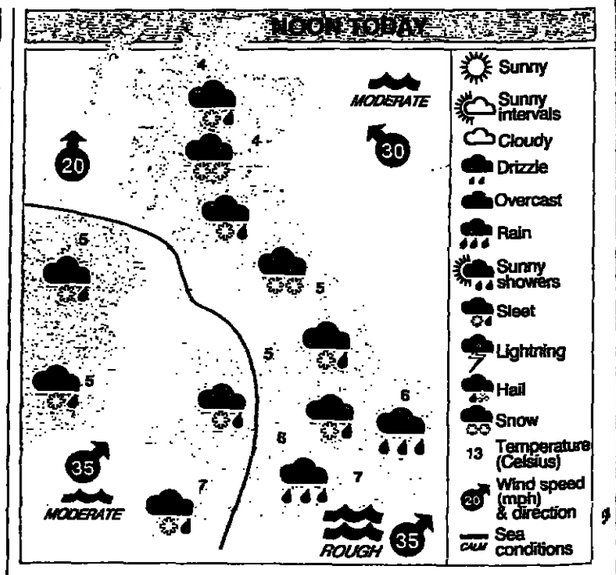
These are Sunday's figures

	Sun hrs	Rain in	C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	C	Max F	
Ajaccio	12	54	f	C'phagn	3	37	r	Majorca	16	61	f
Akrotiri	18	64	s	Corfu	13	55	s	Malaga	21	70	f
Alex'dria	22	72	s	Dublin	5	41	f	Malta	16	61	s
Algiers	15	59	f	Dubrovnik	8	46	r	Melb'rne	23	73	s
Amst'dm	6	43	f	Faro	18	64	f	Miami	26	79	c
Athens	15	59	f	Florence	8	46	r	Milan	12	54	f
Bahrain	24	75	s	Frankfurt	8	46	f	Montreal	-3	27	s
Bangkok	33	91	c	Funchal	19	66	f	Moscow	3	37	c
Barbados	28	82	f	Geneva	4	39	f	Munich	5	41	c
Barcelona	14	57	s	Gibraltar	17	63	f	Nairobi	24	75	f
Beirut	20	68	f	Helsinki	0	32	c	Naples	10	50	r
Belgrade	7	45	r	Hong K	18	64	s	N Delhi	24	75	s
Berlin	8	46	f	Innsbruck	5	41	f	N York	6	43	f
Bermuda	22	72	s	Istanbul	13	55	f	Nice	14	57	s
Biarritz	6	43	r	Jeddah	30	86	s	Oslo	0	32	sn
Borde'x	10	50	c	Jo'burg	25	77	f	Paris	7	45	c
Brussels	5	41	f	L Palmas	20	68	c	Peking	18	64	s
Budapst	8	46	f	Le Touet	8	46	f	Perth	24	75	s
B Aires	24	75	s	Lisbon	11	52	r	Prague	7	45	f
Cairo	26	79	s	Locarno	12	54	s	Reykjavik	-2	28	c
Cape Tn	25	77	s	L Angels	16	61	r	Rhodes	13	55	f
Chicago	2	36	d	Luxembg	2	36	c	Rio de J	32	90	f
Ch'church	19	66	s	Luxor	29	84	f	Riyadh	24	75	s
Cologne	4	39	f	Madrid	11	52	f	Rome	11	52	c
Salzburg	7	45	f
---	---	---	---
S Frisco	11	52	c
Santiago	28	82	s
S Paulo	28	82	f
Seoul	11	52	c
Sing'por	30	86	f
Stckhlm	1	34	f
Strasb'rg	6	43	c
Sydney	24	75	c
Tangier	17	63	c
Tel Aviv	20	68	s
Tenerife	19	66	c
Tunis	17	63	c
Valencia	19	66	f
Vanc'ver	0	32	sn
Venice	9	48	f
Vienna	7	45	r
Warsaw	8	46	s
Wash'tn	8	46	c
Wel'ngton	18	64	c
Zurich	5	41	s

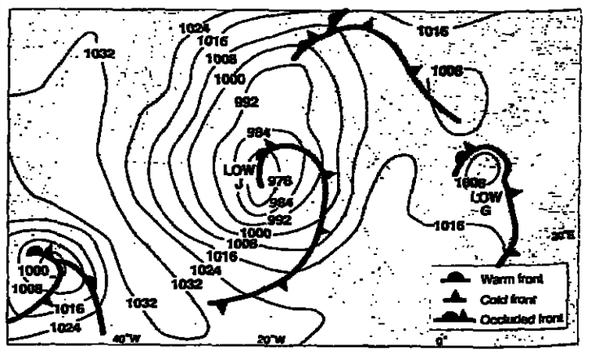
ABROAD

Temperatures at midday local time. X = not available

NOON TODAY



Changes to the chart below from noon: low J will move NE over Orkney and Shetland and fill. Low G will move E over Greece and Turkey and slowly fill



HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	4.55	6.90	5.19	6.73	Leith	5.59	4.87	6.12	4.80
Aberdeen	4.39	3.86	5.00	3.87	Liverpool	2.18	9.41	2.37	8.33
Avonmouth	10.26	11.98	10.38	11.66	Lowestoft	0.29	2.39	0.54	2.18
Belfast	2.23	3.29	2.47	3.25	Margate	3.02	4.49	3.26	4.29
Cardiff	10.17	10.86	10.25	10.51	Milford Haven	9.35	6.13	9.48	5.97
Devonport	8.50	4.85	9.08	4.84	Newquay	8.30	5.87	8.49	5.85
Dover	2.08	6.28	2.30	5.93	Oban	8.52	3.43	8.56	3.49
Dublin	2.51	3.72	3.16	3.71	Penzance	8.00	4.90	8.20	4.73
Falmouth	8.39	4.45	9.01	4.40	Portland	9.49	1.66	9.58	1.58
Glasgow	4.10	4.40	4.32	4.17	Portsmouth	2.30	4.45	2.50	4.26
Harwich	2.57	3.75	3.17	3.55	Shoreham	2.14	5.78	2.33	5.56
Holyhead	1.25	5.04	1.49	4.97	Southampton	1.54	4.29	2.14	4.19
Hull	9.34	6.74	9.51	6.68	Swansea	9.38	8.51	9.51	8.35
Ilfracombe	9.15	8.06	9.23	7.87	Tees	7.10	6.67	7.25	6.68
King's Lynn	9.44	5.72	10.03	5.57	W'ton-on-Nze	2.48	3.94	3.10	3.73

Crown copyright reserved All tide times are GMT

HOURS OF DARKNESS

Sun rises: 6.34 am
Sun sets: 5.51 pm
Moon sets: -
Moon rises: 8.59 am

London 5.51 pm to 6.32 am
Bristol 6.00 pm to 6.41 am
Edinburgh 5.59 pm to 6.48 am
Manchester 5.57 pm to 6.42 am
Penzance 6.13 pm to 6.52 am

First quarter March 9

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هكذا من الأصل



LAW 31-35

Success and struggle in the second city



ARTS 36-38

No West End in sight for Susannah York



SPORT 39-44

Victory in Florida revives Faldo's major ambitions

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TELEVISION AND RADIO
Pages 42, 43

27

THE TIMES

BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook — TUESDAY MARCH 7 1995

Societies look to Barings

THE Barings debacle may be the building societies' gain. Birmingham & Midshires, the 13th-largest society, is hoping to take advantage of the merchant bank's woes to seize a larger share of the local authorities' deposit market (Anne Ashworth writes).

It is expected that other societies will attempt to increase their local authority business, capitalising on what they see as the sense of unease that now surrounds the merchant banking sector, after Barings's collapse.

If local authorities start to prefer building societies, it would follow a trend set by the societies. Market observers said last week the societies were moving money out of merchant banks into gilts.

The Birmingham Midshires is offering two accounts to local authorities: instant-access and an offshore account, which became available on Saturday offering rates that increase by a fixed amount each year. The Halifax, Woolwich and the Cheltenham & Gloucester are other societies already active in this market.

Pennington, page 25

JAMES MORGAN



The men who put the ING in Baring: Aad Jacobs, ING chairman, centre, flanked by fellow executives Godfried van der Lugt, left, and Cees Maas, in London yesterday

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET PRICES

FT-SE 100	3001.9	(-23.2)
Yield	4.43%	
FT-SE A All share	1485.46	(-7.94)
Nikkei	17040.72	(+1.10)
New York:		
Dow Jones	3968.51	(-21.10)*
S&P Composite	462.64	(-2.78)*

US RATE

Federal Funds	5⅝%	(5⅛%)
Long Bond	100⅜*	(100⅞)
Yield	7.62%*	(7.55%)

LONDON MONEY

3-mth Interbank	6⅛%	(6⅛%)
Lffe long gilt future (Mar)	101¹⁵₃₂	(101²³₃₂)

STERLING

New York:		
$	1.6340*	(1.6295)
London:		
$	1.6321	(1.6205)
DM	2.2825	(2.3272)
FFr	8.1000	(8.1960)
SFr	1.9107	(1.9698)
Yen	151.07	(152.82)
£ Index	87.7	(87.9)

DOLLAR

London:		
DM	1.3995*	(1.4235)
FFr	4.9528*	(5.0168)
SFr	1.1698*	(1.2010)
Yen	92.53*	(94.13)
$ Index	91.7	(92.4)

Tokyo close Yen 93.47

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent 15-day (May) $16.80 ($16.75)

GOLD

London close $378.75 ($377.05)

* denotes midday trading price

French group sets sights on water firm

BY MARTIN WALLER, DEPUTY CITY EDITOR

THE first takeover bid for one of the ten privatised water companies loomed yesterday after an offer was made for Northumbrian by Lyonnaise des Eaux.

But the French concern, which has yet to indicate what price it wishes to pay and which needs regulatory clearance first from British and EC authorities, ran into immediate hostility from MPs, unions, the water industry regulator, and Northumbrian itself.

Mike Taylor, Northumbrian's finance director, said: "We're happy as an independent company delivering on the strategy we have laid out to shareholders — we're not looking for somebody to help us."

The company said the approach was unsolicited and unwelcome. "There is an unacceptable absence of specific terms; it will create business disruption and expose shareholders, customers and employees to a prolonged period of uncertainty," it said.

The French group already owns North East Water, a statutory water company that supplies fresh water across most of Northumberland and in the cities in Tyneside and Wearside. Northumbrian supplies water and sewerage services. Lyonnaise wants to merge the two companies to provide cost savings and lower bills to customers. A combined group would have a customer base of 4.2 million.

The two companies were in tentative bid talks last year, but these failed to make any headway. The French concern says it proposes to make a cash offer for Northumbrian on terms to be announced "following satisfactory outcome of regulatory review".

The news sent shares in Northumbrian soaring 128p to 870p. At this level, the company is worth just short of £600 million, but some City analysts were suggesting the French would, in due course, have to pay as much as £10 a share to gain control.

This cannot be until this summer at the earliest. The potential merger of two water companies triggers an immediate reference to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission, and such an inquiry will take at least three months.

Lyonnaise said it hoped eventually to reach agreement with the Northumbrian board, but would not rule out a hostile bid in due course. Jacques Petry, president of the group's international water division, said: "We have done it this way because of the very strict regulatory framework of the water industry. We wanted to clarify all the regulatory aspects before actually making an offer."

A spokeswoman for Ian Byatt, the water regulator, said a merger "could impact on his ability to carry out his statutory duties, because it would reduce the number of comparators that would enable him to make comparisons about efficiency, etcetera, and to set the relevant price limits". This would have to be balanced, in Mr Byatt's view, by corresponding advantages for consumers, in particular lower prices. Opposition MPs were linking the French bid with Trafalgar House's unwelcome £1.2 billion onslaught on Northern Electric, also in the North East.

Brian Wilson, Labour's Trade and Industry spokesman, said the offer was "a predictable follow-on" from the Government's refusal to intervene in the Northern bid. "We are now into a period of Tory-sponsored open season on public utilities with the consumers' interests the least of participants' concerns."

Pennington, page 25

Managers' pay awards 'rising'

PAY awards for company managers are running at their highest level for two years, according to figures today that will add to the pressure on top-level corporate pay (Philip Bassett writes).

Incomes Data Services says that against the backdrop of continuing economic recovery, pay awards to managers and professional staff in the private sector rose in the three months to January to 3.6 per cent.

This compares with an average level of awards of 2.9 per cent in the same period a year ago.

The survey of settlements for more than 160 managerial groups over the three-month period suggests that much of the recovery in management pay rises has taken place recently. IDS says a quarter of the recorded rises were of 4 per cent or more, while others were about 5.5 to 6 per cent.

Paying the price, page 27

Sterling sinks to new low against the mark

BY JANET BUSH, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

EUROPEAN politicians fought an ever more desperate public relations campaign yesterday, defending their plans to move to a single currency, even as sterling, the French franc and the Portuguese escudo sank to new record lows against the German mark.

The dollar sank to an all-time low against the yen for the third consecutive trading day and hovered near to its record low against the mark. Japanese officials talked about convening a special meeting of the Group of Seven and the market was awash with rumours — denied — that the Federal Open Market Committee, which sets US interest rates, was in emergency session.

The air of crisis, which followed the decision of the European Union's monetary committee on Sunday to allow a devaluation of the Spanish peseta and the escudo, prompted comment from a number of European leaders. Yves-Thibault de Silguy, EU Economic Affairs Commissioner, said that the creation of a single currency had not been affected by recent turmoil in the currency markets. "All preparations [for economic and monetary union] must be completed by the end of 1996."

However, market commentators set little store by such words of reassurance. George Magnus, chief economist at SG Warburg, said: "Official statements since 1992 have always argued that developments have not been justified by the economic fundamentals. But it is quite clear that there are fundamental problems, which investors are right to be concerned about."

Mr Magnus believes the current turmoil is a much more serious crisis than in 1992, when the lira and sterling left the ERM, and in 1993, when the whole system was forced to abandon narrow bands. Many European countries face a cocktail of political and economic troubles, making it hard to foresee the kind of stability that would qualify them for the single currency.

The devaluation of the peseta by 7 per cent and the escudo by 3.5 per cent now leaves the franc as the next target of the currency markets. The franc, vulnerable to attack because of elections at the end of April and because of the need to cut France's budget deficit when unemployment remains above 12 per cent, fell to a new low of 3.5510 against the mark.

Sterling, which held up well most of the day, suddenly slumped to a new record low in late trading of about DM2.2718, more than three pfennigs down on levels earlier.

EMU doubt, page 9
Market report, page 26

Instant profit for investors in power

BY MARTIN WALLER

INVESTORS in the £4 billion sale of the Government's remaining shares in National Power and PowerGen were assured of instant profits when dealings began yesterday.

By the close of trading, the part-paid shares in PowerGen had reached 198½p and their National Power equivalents 186½p. They had been offered at 185p and 170p, respectively, in part-paid form, to the retail investor through the UK Public Offer and at 10p-a-share more to City institutions.

Strong retail demand had required the switching of 10 per cent of the issue to the public offer, from institutions. This virtually guaranteed a big premium in early dealings, as institutions had to go into the market to obtain a full weighting in the shares.

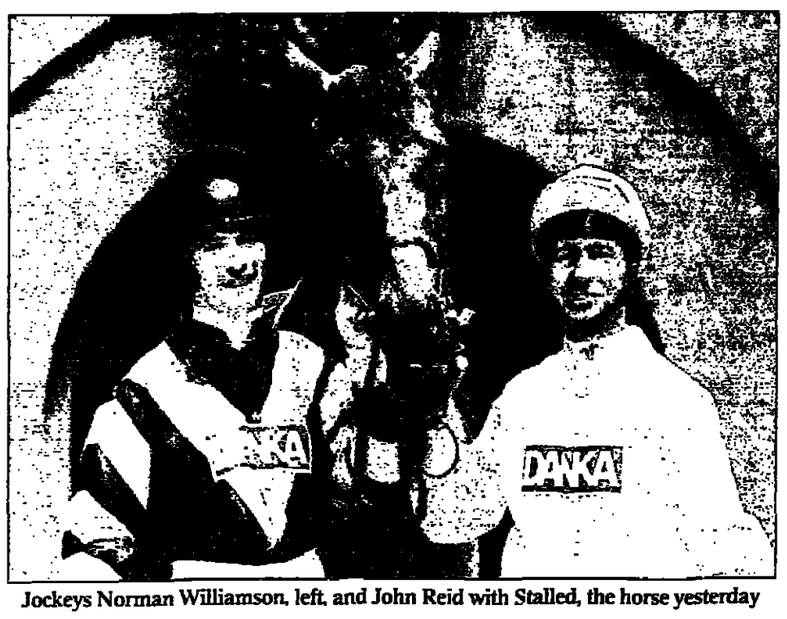
At last night's closing price, retail investors who applied for the minimum package, 80 PowerGen shares and 120 National Power costing £352 in part-paid form, are sitting on a profit of just over £30, minus any dealing costs.

The profit for institutions is less, but still sufficient to brand the issue a success. Potential profits had been even higher during the day, but shrank as the stock market as a whole fell. In early trading, PowerGen shares were well over £2.

Stock Market, page 26

Prices page

Technical problems at our supplier of Wall Street share price statistics have prevented publication of the latest prices in this edition. We apologise.



Jockeys Norman Williamson, left, and John Reid with Stalled, the horse yesterday

Danka backs horses in sponsorship deal

BY MARTIN BARROW

AND they're off... Sponsors' logos, a fixture on footballers' strips since 1977 and on cricket shirts since 1986, have finally intruded into the world of horseracing.

Danka, the supplier of photocopiers and facsimile machines, yesterday became the first company to place its logo on racing silks in a £350,000 three-year sponsorship deal with the Lambourn Trainers Association. Danka's logo will appear on the colours of Lambourn-trained horses, as well as horse boxes, attendants' clothing, blankets and coolers. The sponsorship will cover 30 training yards with about 1,500 horses in training, running more than 5,500 races a year, both flat and national hunt.

Danka will pay a sponsorship fee to each runner, and winners of televised races will receive £500, rising to £1,000 if the race has a value in excess of £10,000. Donations will also be made to racing charities, the Lambourn Welfare Trust and the Injured Jockeys' Fund.

In March 1993, in a memorandum of understanding concluded between the Thoroughbred Racing and Breeding Industry and HM Customs and Excise, owners registered for VAT have to seek income from prize money, appearance money and sponsorship.

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Smith & Nephew plans to expand

BY SARAH BAGNALL

ACQUISITIONS are on the agenda at Smith & Nephew, the healthcare group. John Robinson, chief executive, said the consolidation in the healthcare industry was likely to throw up opportunities, which, with no debt, the company was well placed to exploit.

"Because of the strength of our balance sheet, we are in a strong position to make acquisitions," he said. The most likely area for expansion is orthopaedic implants, where the group is about the fifth largest in the world. But, Mr Robinson said, to be one of the market leaders one had to survive in the new, harsher trading environment.

Mr Robinson's remarks came as he announced a 9 per cent rise in pre-tax profits and exceptional items for the year to December 31, to £172.2 million. Exceptional charges of £177.7 million pushed the group into a loss of £5.5 million, compared with a profit of £164.9 million. The exceptional charges reflected a £150 million loss on the sale of Ioptex, the lens business, last August, together with a £27 million restructuring charge.

Group turnover rose from £948.7 million to £964.6 million, reflecting a 7 per cent rise in underlying sales from continuing operations. The strongest growth was in Japan, where sales rose 33 per cent, followed by 25 per cent in South East Asia. Mr Robinson said together they accounted for £40 million of sales, but looking forward five years they would be significant markets for the group.

By product, the best performance was achieved by casting and support, which lifted sales 14 per cent.

The final dividend, payable on July 4, was lifted to 3.26p, making a total for the year of 5.28p, up from 4.91p. The dividend is being paid out of earnings of 10.62p a share, up 5 per cent.

Tempus, page 26

DOUG MARKE



Improving trading conditions for Suter: David Abell, chairman, left, with Alan Hewitt, finance director

Suter enjoys good finish to the year

SUTER, the industrial conglomerate that completed the £23.4 million takeover of James Wilkes, the specialist engineer, last year, lifted trading profits to £25.3 million in 1994 from £20.5 million in 1993 (Martin Barrow writes).

David Abell, chairman, said that although some markets had remained flat there had been a general improvement in trading conditions across the majority of Suter's businesses. The performance in the later months of 1994 had been particularly encouraging, he added, and with the UK set fair for a period of steady growth, conditions in central Europe were now also starting to improve.

Turnover rose to £244.9 million from £186.9 million. Five acquisitions were completed in the year.

There is a final dividend of 6p a share, payable on June 19, making a total of 9.5p, increased from 9.2p. Earnings rose to 13.9p a share from 11.5p, excluding last year's exceptional credit.

Budge urges pit unions to drop disruption threat

BY ROSS TIEMAN, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

THE head of Britain's biggest coal company yesterday called on mining unions to abandon threats of industrial action and join a drive to rebuild their industry.

In his first public speech since taking over the bulk of British Coal's business last Christmas, Richard Budge, chief executive of RJB Mining, called on union leaders to "work with change, rather than fight it".

He decried suggestions that RJB's attempt to introduce three-year contracts for miners amounted to a pay freeze. "Our offer guarantees that terms and benefits will not be reduced," he said. Productivity could still be rewarded.

"Now isn't the time for union threats of industrial action," he told the Coal Industry Society, in London. Such action "would be extremely detrimental to securing markets and send the wrong message to all of our customers at a most critical time".

Officials of the National Union of Mineworkers and the Union of Democratic Mineworkers have expressed opposition to three-year contracts.

However, Mr Budge insisted: "We are asking union leaders to be realistic, to work with change, rather than fight it, and to assist their members and RJB to develop the business profitably."

RJB had already "probably reduced overall costs by 3 per cent" since taking over British Coal's operations in England for £815 million in December. "Although British Coal has substantially reduced costs over recent years, there is still room for further improvements," Mr Budge said.

Discussions with material suppliers and equipment manufacturers about cost reductions were under way. "They realise that without the co-operation of everyone, costs may not be competitive and the industry will continue to decline," he said.

Since the break-up of British Coal and the separate sales of the Scottish and Welsh mining operations, RJB Mining has become Britain's biggest coal mining group, with 21 deep mines in production and many more open-cast sites.

With British Coal's assets added to existing operations, RJB Mining has annual output of 38 million tonnes. Four-fifths of production comes from deep mines, the rest from open-cast. Mr Budge said that he hoped to maintain that ratio. "We will not be expanding our open-cast operations at the expense of our deep mine production," he said.

However, RJB has begun discussions with local councils and other interested parties in order that open-cast sites can be replaced when exhausted. Access to open-cast was essential to maintain the mix of supplies sought by customers, Mr Budge said.

Intrum Justitia slips to £13.6m

BY COLIN NARBROUGH, WORLD TRADE CORRESPONDENT

INTRUM JUSTITIA, the London-listed company that is Europe's leading debt collector, saw its profits held back by difficulties in the Nordic countries, its original market.

Pre-tax profits slipped 2 per cent to £13.6 million on slightly lower turnover of £82.1 million. The net profit fell 5 per cent to £10.1 million, depressing earnings per share to 8.8p from 9.3p. Despite lower profits, the board recommends maintaining the final dividend of 2.2p, giving an unchanged gross dividend of 3.3p. Final dividend will be paid on June 2.

Lars Rohwer, chief executive, said the group benefited from strong performances in most markets last year and hoped it could build on those markets this year, besides looking forward to improvement in the Nordic economies. The UK arm of the company raised its profits last year, despite a £600,000 investment in a business-to business debt collection service.

Lucas £1bn deal to supply VW

BY ROSS TIEMAN
INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

EFFORTS by George Simpson, the former Rover cars chief, to revitalise Lucas Industries showed first fruits of success yesterday when the car parts group detailed a £1 billion contract to supply Volkswagen.

Three hundred new jobs will be created at Stonehouse, Gloucestershire and Birmingham as facilities are expanded to supply electronic injection units for diesel engines built by the German car group.

The selection of the Lucas electronic injection system by a carmaker marks a break through for the Birmingham car, aerospace and automotive parts group. Although lorrymakers began to buy the system eight years ago, Lucas has hitherto been unable to persuade car manufacturers to adopt the system, although it improves fuel economy and cuts emissions of particulates, the fine particles which have been linked to rising respiratory ailments.

Mr Simpson said: "We fully expect other companies to follow this lead." The contract showed Lucas could convert its research spending into product sales, he said.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

ASW benefits from steel industry upturn

ASW HOLDINGS, the British construction steelmaker about to take over part of Usinor-Sacilor, the French state steel group, expects the upturn in the industry to continue this year, after giving a big boost to profits in 1994. Pre-tax profits in the year to December 31 surged to £4.2 million, from £100,000. The net profit rose to £5.7 million, from £900,000, on turnover of £464.3 million (£428.5 million). Earnings per share rose to 6.4p, from a loss of 0.7p. As announced last year, the dividend will be held at 3p.

Mr Edward Townsend, finance director, said ASW expected final approval from the French government soon of his company's acquisition from Usinor-Sacilor of 80 per cent of Société des Aciers d'Armature pour le Beton. Approval has already been given by the French privatisation committee. The acquisition, which will give Usinor-Sacilor a 12 per cent stake in ASW, would make ASW a pan-European steel company and up its turnover to about £640 million.

Saatchi appointment

SAATCHI & SAATCHI, the beleaguered advertising group has appointed a human resources chief because "people are our most important asset". The group, thrown into turmoil when its ousting of Maurice Saatchi as chairman sparked a wave of staff resignations and prompted some key client defections, said Al Prendergast would become executive vice-president of human resources worldwide. Charles Scott, the chief executive, said: "I fully expect the knowledge and experience which Al brings to the group will help to enhance the future performance of all our business units."

Volvo buys Dutch stake

VOLVO, the Swedish carmaker, has agreed to pay Clark Equipment, of America, $573 million for its 50 per cent stake in VME, the Dutch-registered company created when the two groups merged their construction equipment businesses in 1985. Clark said in January that it intended to sell its holding in VME, which makes excavators, wheel-loaders and rigid trucks, through a public share offering. Volvo said that VME will now become a fully-owned subsidiary and be renamed Volvo Construction Equipment, and that the deal fitted Volvo's policy of concentrating on the automotive industry.

Dasa in joint jet study

DASA, the German aerospace group, and Samsung Aerospace of South Korea have agreed to study the feasibility of building a regional transport jet with 100-120 seats. The aircraft could be built for service in the next century if market research and development studies were conclusively favourable. Dasa said. The agreement was also initialled by Fokker, Dasa's Dutch subsidiary. Dasa initialled a similar memorandum with the Chinese aero industry in December, and the latest agreement completes the partnership arrangements.

Burnfield bounces back

BURNFIELD, the industrial control group, saw profits recover to £3.1 million before tax in the year to December 31, from a depressed £776,000 in 1993, and said it had entered the current year with improved order books and a strong balance sheet. The company is lifting the final dividend to 1.75p a share, payable on May 4, making a total of 2.75p, increased from 2.5p. Earnings recovered to 6.3p a share, from 1.4p. Turnover edged forward to £39.56 million, from £38.5 million, but operating profits recovered strongly to £3.2 million, from £1 million.

Salvesen's £64m sale

CHRISTIAN SALVESEN, the food distribution and specialist hire company, has sold its brick operations for £63.5 million to their management, backed by CINVen, the venture capitalists. The operations consist of Salvesen Brick, WH Collier and associated assets. A total of £61 million is payable in cash, with the balance coming from an unsecured convertible loan stock note with par value of £2.5 million, redeemable upon the sale or flotation of the business. Sale proceeds will be used to reduce group borrowings, which were £132.3 million at the end of the year to March 31, 1994.

Inveresk hit by price rise



RISING woodpulp prices cut pre-tax profits of Inveresk, the paper maker, by 12 per cent, to £8.1 million, in the year to December 3. Bill Goodall, right, the chairman, said woodpulp prices had risen by about 80 per cent. Turnover rose 12 per cent, to £101.2 million. Exports, up 12 per cent, are now 51 per cent of turnover. The final dividend rises from 3.5p to 3.68p, making 5.52p. Earnings per share are 10.9p, down from 16.9p after an increase in shares upon flotation.

Mackie beats forecast

MACKIE International Group, the Belfast precision engineering company, comfortably beat its own flotation profit forecast of £1.9 million with actual profits of £2.04 million for the year to December 31, which excluded exceptional income relating to debt forgiveness. Earnings were 37.4p a share, against a forecast 24.4p. Turnover rose to £19.5 million from £13.2 million. The company reported net assets of £17 million at the year-end. In 1993, Mackie incurred pre-tax losses of £2.62 million, with losses per share of 70.9p. On the stock market, the shares, floated at 180p last September, rose 3p to 243p.

Close lifts payout

CLOSE BROTHERS, the merchant bank and investment management group, lifted its interim dividend by 16 per cent to 2.9p, from 2.5p, in spite of almost unchanged pre-tax profits of £16.4 million in the half year to January 31. Earnings per share were 11.2p, up from 11.1p previously. Operating income fell to £35.8 million (£41.6 million). Net interest income rose to £19.95 million (£16.7 million), but fee and commission income fell to £8.6 million (£16.25 million). Administrative costs were cut to £17.3 million (£21.6 million). The loan book rose by 23 per cent, to £429 million. The shares gained 4p, to 235p.

Oftel to bring in more new dialling codes

BY ERIC REGULY

CONSUMERS are likely to be bombarded with another confusing "phone day" next year when the Office of Telecommunications, the national custodian of telephone numbers, introduces a new array of dialling codes.

Under the scheme, the second digit in the dialling prefix will change, but only for new subscribers.

For example, the prefix for Tonbridge, Kent, which goes from 0732 to 01732 on April 16, will become 02732 if you are a new arrival in the neighbourhood; if you are already on 01732, you can keep it.

To make matters even more confusing, certain regions may get entirely new prefixes. The area in London within the M25 motorway may be assigned the 025 prefix.

Again, it would apply only to new subscribers; everyone else would keep their old prefixes.

The plan, in effect, would give two sets of prefixes for each region while making it difficult to know the destination of the call.

Oftel said that the new codes are needed to expand the rapidly depleting stock of telephone numbers. Lengthening the dialling prefix from three to four digits (071 to 0171, for example) in April will not actually increase the stock of numbers.

It is just the first step towards introducing a new series of prefixes (such as 0271 and, eventually, 0371 and 0471) that will allow capacity to increase.

Oftel plans to introduce the new 02 prefix sometime next year. The idea, however, has not been applauded by British Telecom, Mercury Communications and telephone-user groups.

While they want a bigger stock of telephone numbers, they are baffled by the complexity of the new codes and want to know precisely when they will be introduced.

"What we need is a clear statement from Oftel and a clear date so that telephone exchanges can co-ordinate their switching software," said David Harrington, Director-General of the Telecommunications Managers Association, which represents the users of private telephone networks.

A spokesman for Mercury said: "We need to see more consultation and a clearer indication why this needs to be introduced."

Homes claim 'unrealistic'

ONLY three million out of Britain's 10 million homeowners will take up private insurance schemes in the wake of the Government's cuts in income support payments, the Council of Mortgage Lenders said yesterday.

The CML, representing more than 90 per cent of mortgage lenders, said that the Government's claim that the private sector would cover any shortfall in state housing subsidy was "unrealistic". The Government claims that the private insurance sector will more than make up for the reduction in state help.

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.34	2.17
Austria Sch	17.32	15.82
Belgium Fr	50.58	48.28
Canada $	2.422	2.262
Cyprus Cypt	0.771	0.716
Denmark Kr	9.67	9.07
Finland Mkk	7.72	7.07
France Fr	8.63	7.98
Germany Dm	2.47	2.26
Greece Dr	399.00	364.00
Hong Kong $	13.35	12.35
Ireland Pt	1.07	0.99
Israel	5.3847	4.6347
Italy Lire	2865.00	2710.00
Japan Yen	168.00	152.00
Malta	0.615	0.560
Netherlds Gld	2.748	2.516
Norway Kr	10.85	10.05
Portugal Esc	253.00	234.50
S Africa Rd	ref.	5.46
Spain Pta	214.00	201.00
Sweden Kr	12.47	11.67
Switzerland Fr	2.07	1.89
Turkey Lire	refer	66819.0
USA $	1.742	1.612

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates: at close of trading.

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LEGAL NOTICES

ACCELERATION INSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED
TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN. Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 175 of the Companies Act 1985 ("the Act") that:
(1) the above named Company has approved a payment out of capital for the purpose of acquiring its own shares by purchase;
(2) the amount of the permissable capital payment for the shares in question is £770,000 and the Special Resolution approving such payment out of capital was passed on 2nd day of March, 1995;
(3) the Statutory Declaration of the Directors' and the Auditors' report referred to Sections 173 and 174 of the Act are available for inspection at the Company's registered office at Suite B, 15-17 High Street, Windsor, Berkshire SL4 1LD;
(4) any creditor of the Company may at any time within the five weeks immediately following 2nd March, 1995 apply to the court under Sections 176 and 177 of the Act for an order prohibiting the payment.
Beachcroft Stanleys
20 Furnival Street
London EC4A 1BN

CHARITY COMMISSION
Charities - 1 St Aidan's Home 2 St Monica's, Ashbourne 3 Hampstead Boys and Girls Trust
The Commissioners propose to make a Scheme for these charities. A copy of the draft scheme can be seen at the offices of Messrs Radcliffes & Co, 8 Great College Street, Westminster, London, SW1P 3SJ, by prior appointment between 09.30 and 17.30 hours Monday to Friday, or obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to St Albans House, 57/60 Haymarket, London, SW1Y 4QX quoting reference M0722/1124/2/CD (Edn1). Comments or representations can be made within one month from today.

In the matter of Sebvia Limited and in the matter of the Insolvency Act 1986
Notice is hereby given, pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a meeting of the creditors of the above-named company will be held at 8 Salisbury Square London EC4Y 8BB on 13 March 1995 at 10.30 am for the purposes mentioned in Section 99, 100 and 101 of the said Act.
Statements of claim, and proxy forms if applicable, must be lodged at PO Box 730, 20 Farringdon Street, London EC4A 4PP not later than 12 noon on the 10 March 1995.
A list of names and addresses of the company's creditors may be inspected, free of charge, at the offices of KPMG, PO Box 730, 20 Farringdon Street, London EC4A 4PP on the two working days preceding the meeting.
Dated 1 March 1995
By order of the Board
G Swaisbank Director & Secretary

M M C Marketing & Communications Limited
Registered Number: 2286628. Former company name: Precis (1223) Limited. Trading Name: M M C Marketing & Communications Limited. Nature of Business: Advertising and Promotion. Trade Classification: 46. Date of Appointment of Administrative Receivers: 16 February 1995. Name of person appointing the Administrative Receivers: WMGO Group Plc. Names of persons appointed: G C A Mershall and F F A Weasely both of 22 Melton Street, Euston Square London NW1 2EP (Office Holder No. 4225 and 7786). Joint Administrative Receivers.

NO 00982
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
IN THE MATTER OF
A & P APPLEDORE LIMITED
AND IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Petition was on 17 February 1995 presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice for the confirmation of the reduction of the share premium account of the above-named Company by £1,234,725
AND NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the said Petition is directed to be heard before Mr Registrar Buckley at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London WC2A 2LL on Wednesday 15 March 1995.
ANY Creditor or Shareholder of the said Company desiring to oppose the making of an Order for the confirmation of the said reduction of share premium account should appear at the time of hearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose.
A COPY of the said Petition will be furnished to any such person requiring the same by the undermentioned solicitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same.
DATED this 7th day of March 1995
Berwin Leighton
Adelaide House
London Bridge
London EC4R 9HA
Ref: JOWK/A674/5
Solicitors for the above-named Company

NO 001088 OF 1995
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
IN THE MATTER OF RESTAURANTS INTERNATIONAL LIMITED
AND IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Petition was on 21 February 1995 presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice for the confirmation of (i) the reduction of the share capital of the above named Company from £2,000,000 to £1,875,000 and (ii) the reduction of the share premium account of the said Company by £275,000.
AND NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the said Petition is directed to be heard before Mr Registrar Buckley at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London WC2A 2LL on Wednesday 15 March 1995.
ANY Creditor or Shareholder of the said Company desiring to oppose the making of an Order for the confirmation of the said reduction of share capital and cancellation of share premium account should appear at the time of hearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose.
A COPY of the said Petition will be furnished to any such person requiring the same by the undermentioned solicitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same.
DATED this 7th day of March 1995
Berwin Leighton
Adelaide House
London Bridge
London EC4R 9HA
Ref: IL/R778/2
Solicitors for the above-named Company

THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
High Court of Justice No 6272 of 1994 Bellstech Films Limited (In Liquidation) In accordance with Rule 4.106 of the Insolvency Rules 1986, I, E J Wacey of Bucher Phillips, 54 Grosvenor Street, London, W1X 9DF, give notice that I was appointed Liquidator of the above on 7 February 1995. Dated 1 March 1995 E J Wacey, Liquidator

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF JOINT ADMINISTRATIVE RECEIVERS
M.A.K. ENGINEERING LIMITED
(In Administrative Receivership)
Registered Number: 1535707
Former Name: Ermcar Limited
Trading Name: None
Nature of Business: Vehicle Repairs/Petrol Filling Stations
Trade Classifications: 19
Date of Appointment of Joint Administrative Receivers: 28th February 1995
Name of Person Appointing the Joint Administrative Receivers: National Westminster Bank plc
Name and Address of Joint Administrative Receivers: Brian Mills FCPA &
Simon Geoffrey Paterson MBPA Booth White
58 New Road
Chatham
Kent, ME4 4QR
Office Holder Numbers: 2326 & 6856 respectively
BRIAN MILLS & SIMON GEOFFREY PATERSON
JOINT ADMINISTRATIVE RECEIVERS

No 00983 of 1995
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
IN THE MATTER OF
A & P APPLEDORE INTERNATIONAL LIMITED
AND IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Petition was on 17 February 1995 presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice for the confirmation of the cancellation of the share premium account of the above-named Company of £1,228,025
AND NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the said Petition is directed to be heard before Mr Registrar Buckley at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London WC2A 2LL on Wednesday 15 March 1995.
ANY Creditor or Shareholder of the said Company desiring to oppose the making of an Order for the confirmation of the said cancellation of share premium account should appear at the time of hearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose.
A COPY of the said Petition will be furnished to any such person requiring the same by the undermentioned solicitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same.
DATED this 7th day of March 1995
Berwin Leighton
Adelaide House
London Bridge
London EC4R 9HA
Ref: JOWK/A674/5
Solicitors for the above-named Company

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF SOLE LIQUIDATOR AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS TO CLAIM
LANBERRY BROTHERS (UNDERWRITING IN LIQUIDATION)
Principal Trading Address: St Peters Warwick Lane, London EC4P 4BN
Company Number 936596
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Rule 4.106 of the Insolvency Rules 1986 that on 2 March 1995 David Llewellyn Morgan was appointed Liquidator of the above named company (creditors' voluntary winding up).
Creditors of the company who have not already done so should forthwith send claims in writing to the Liquidator at the following address under reference: AJGS/MJB
Touche Ross & Co
PO Box 810
Cedric House
8-9 East Harding Street
London EC4A 3AS

Permanens Limited
In Administrative Receivership
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 46 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a general meeting of the unsecured creditors of the above-named company will be held at PO Box 585, 30 Eastbourne Terrace, (2nd Floor), London W2 6LF on 16th March 1995 at 10.30 hrs for the purpose of having a report laid before the meeting and of hearing any explanation that may be given by the Administrative Receivers. Creditors whose claims are wholly secured are not entitled to attend or be represented. A form of proxy is enclosed which, if to be used at the meeting, must be completed in accordance with guidance notes provided thereon and lodged at Leonard Curtis & Co not later than 12.00 hrs on 15th March 1995. Please note that a creditor is entitled to vote only if he has delivered to the Administrative Receivers not later than 12.00 hrs on 15th March 1995 details in writing of the debt claimed to be due from the company, and there has been lodged with the Administrative Receivers any proxy which the creditor intends to be used on his behalf. Dated: 1 March 1995 K.P. Barry, FCA Joint Administrative Receiver

Rightstone Limited (formerly Permanens Restoration Limited) - In Administrative Receivership
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 46 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a general meeting of the unsecured creditors of the above-named company will be held at PO Box 585, 30 Eastbourne Terrace, (2nd Floor), London W2 6LF on 16th March 1995 at 10.45 hrs for the purpose of having a report laid before the meeting and of hearing any explanation that may be given by the Administrative Receivers. Creditors whose claims are wholly secured are not entitled to attend or be represented. A form of proxy is enclosed which, if to be used at the meeting, must be completed in accordance with guidance noted provided thereon and lodged at Leonard Curtis & Co not later than 12.00 hrs on 15th March 1995. Please note that a creditor is entitled to vote only if he has delivered to the Administrative Receivers not later than 12.00 hrs on 15th March 1995 details in writing of the debt claimed to be due from the company, and there has been lodged with the Administrative Receivers any proxy which the creditor intends to be used on his behalf. Dated: 1 March 1995 K.P. Barry, FCA Joint Administrative Receiver

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Touche Ross & Co
PO Box 810
Cedric House
8-9 East Harding Street
London EC4A 3AS

NOTICE OF Appointment of Administrative Receivers (pursuant to section 46(1) Insolvency Act 1986 and rule 3.2 Insolvency Rules 1986)
Company name Ryman Limited
Registered Number 81485
Former Company Name(s) None
Trading name Ryman Limited
Administrative Receivers' & S James M D Bates
Address AtRaglan Business Park Theale
Reading
BERKS
Date of appointment 1 March 1995
By whom appointed Midland Bank plc
Type and date of instrument of appointment Debenture 18 March 1994
Assets not covered by appointment None

THE INSOLVENCY RULES 1986
Rule 4.106(1)
Holloway Youth Workshops Limited
In Creditors' Voluntary Liquidation
I HEREBY GIVE NOTICE that I, S E Dayman, Licenced Insolvency Practitioner, of BDO Stoy Hayward, 8 Baker Street, London, W1M 1DA, was appointed Liquidator of the above named company on 2 March 1995. All debts and claims should be sent to me at the above address.
All creditors who have not already done so are invited to prove their claims in writing to me. No further public advertisement of invitation to prove debts will be given.
Dated: 2 March 1995
S E Dayman
Liquidator

TRUSTEE ACTS

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to s27 of the TRUSTEE Act, 1925 that any person having a CLAIM against or an INTEREST in the ESTATE of any of the deceased person's whose names, addresses and descriptions are set out below is hereby required to send particulars of his claim or interest to the person or persons mentioned in relation to the deceased person concerned before the date specified, after which date the estate of the deceased will be distributed by the personal representatives among the persons entitled thereto having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND BENEFICIARIES TO SEND IN CLAIMS UNDER TRUSTEE ACT 1925 SECTION 27
RE: EMELIA RUTH DOBSON
PURSUANT TO THE Trustee Act 1925 NOTICE is given that all creditors and others having any claims against or claiming to be beneficially interested in the estate of Sheila Ruth Dobson late of Lyndord House Nursing Home Beverley Close Barley Ringwood Hampshire who died on the 13th day of September 1994 and whose Will was proved in the Principal Registry of the Family Division on the 22nd day of February 1995 by David Rodney Fitzroy Earle one of the executors named in it power being reserved to the other executor so named are hereby required by them in writing to the undersigned solicitors on or before the 10th day of May 1995 after which date the said executor will proceed to distribute the assets of the deceased among the persons entitled to them having regard only to the claims of which he then has had notice and shall not be liable for the assets of the deceased or any part of them so distributed to any person or persons of whose claims or demands he has not had notice.
Dated the 2nd day of March 1995
Mowry Pelster Cowen
16 Berkley Street
London W1X 5AE
Ref: AM/D13601
Solicitors for the Executor

PUBLIC NOTICES

Charity - The Dolmen Trust
The Commissioners propose to make a Scheme for this charity. A copy of the draft Scheme can be seen at 30c Clarence Road, St Albans, Herts, AL1 4JJ, or obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to Woodfield House, Tessiter, Tewnton, Somerset, TA1 4BL, quoting reference CTD/228519/A/4-CDET). Comments or representations can be made within one month from today.

هكذا من الأصل

☐ No barriers to a French takeover ☐ Time to ponder the sins of wages ☐ Bearing little for bondholders

Lyonnaise tests the water

☐ OH! to have been a fly on the wall at Northumbrian Water's Gosforth headquarters when Lyonnaise des Eaux first heaved into view. Northumbrian, by all accounts, thought that the French wanted to discuss the sale of their North East Water business, a plan that would have suited Northumbrian's own expansion plans down to the ground.

The two had already been in collaboration within their home markets, which intersect and overlap all over the North-East. Where North East itself provides water, the same household gets its sewerage services from Northumbrian. Water from the mighty Kielder reservoir, indeed, operated by Northumbrian, feeds into the Tees, the Tyne and the Wear, whence North East draws its supplies.

What could be more natural, and more cost-effective, than putting the two together into one body? This, of course, is just what the French had in mind. Only slowly must it have dawned on the Northumbrian board — and it is not entirely fair to blame difficulties in translation — that their approach was somewhat different. They did not want to sell North East — they wanted a controlling stake in Northumbrian.

The negotiations, it is fair to assume, broke down fairly swiftly at this stage. The French were considering their position just as, in another sector of the privatised utilities, Trafalgar House was cutting the regulatory Gordian knot and bidding outright for Northern Electric.

The widespread perception was that Trafs would be bounced forthwith into the Monopolies Commission by a government keen to avoid a political row over regional asset-stripping by an overseas company. They were not, which will have been quite an encouragement to a French business keen to buy further into the British water industry.

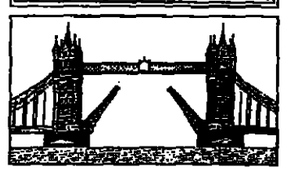
The timetable henceforth is a depressing one for everyone save those drawing fees from either camp. The Department of Trade and Industry must resolve with Brussels who gets jurisdiction, which could take a month. Assuming it goes to London, the DTI draws up terms of reference for another week and the MMC looks at it for three months. Give the relevant Secretary of State another month to mull over it, and we are well into August before Lyonnaise can make a formal bid at a given price. Then, and only when there is a price on the table, Brussels has its chance to look at it. That price is therefore almost impossible to assess this early on. At the current level Northumbrian, the smallest of the ten privatised companies in England and Wales and the perennial bid favourite, is worth more than three and a half times the value at which it was sold in 1989. The reckoning must be, post-Trafalgar, that the French will pass the regulatory hurdles and bid. Certainly, if Trafalgar House is deemed a suitable owner of a near-monopoly utility, Lyonnaise would seem to raise few difficulties.

Where it pays to listen and change

☐ CEDRIC BROWN, the chief executive of British Gas, is once again up before the bench at the Commons Employment Select Committee today over his pay package. Business is in the dock again. Or is it?

Industry has so far not made much of a fist in defending itself in the row over executive pay.

PENNINGTON



Partly, that's because many of its key figures are not very good at coming up with answers in public: away from the yes-man atmosphere of many UK boardrooms, where the chief executive's word is often unchallengeable law, industry leaders are very inexperienced at being questioned closely on sensitive or indeed any issues.

But for its own sake, business and its shareholders need to face up to the damage to industry and services that the row over executive pay is doing.

The public impression that all bosses are now somehow cheating over pay is strong. Such a view is deeply frustrating for many people trying to run companies in Britain, and still feeling the strong undertow of recession. Small manufacturers are goggling at Cedric Brown's 75 per cent pay rise, bonus and share options as much as anyone else. But they know that they and industry generally are being tainted by the actions of a tiny number of companies.

The pay row is about the remuneration of the leaders of the privatised utility companies in gas, water, electricity and telecommunications — not of industry in general. Yet most industry leaders seem reluctant to support the justified criticism of utility executives' pay, even though their own and their business's standing is being damaged by the image of greed and salary-rigging. There are problems about executive pay that run wider than the privatised utilities. The merry roundabout of remuneration committees prompts a strong and often correct impression of extensive and lucrative back-scratching.

Such issues should be dealt with by the CBI's Greenbury committee. If Greenbury comes up with satisfactory results, business should embrace its proposed reforms. But Greenbury is unlikely to come up with solutions to actual pay levels and rises for utility directors, the issue causing most offence. The spectacle of utility leaders blustering away in the employment committee hearings has not been an edifying one. Arrogance has been the common and unpleasant factor.

Greenbury will not and cannot provide all the solutions, though it would be valuable if it recommended a new role for shareholders in setting directors' pay — the exercising of which would be to the benefit of the utilities and business in general.

Going Dutch at Barings

☐ THOSE investing in Barings' £100 million perpetual subordinated debt issue in January last year knew that they were taking higher than average risk for higher than average returns.

When the bank went bust at the end of last month, it was obvious that they were going to be the biggest losers. Depositors were always going to get some dividend from the administration, no matter how the securities, banking and asset management businesses of Barings were parcelled up and sold off. Aad Jacobs, chairman of ING, which yesterday bought the bank from the administrators, wasted no sympathy on bondholders.

Their objections to the administrators' request to the High Court yesterday for approval for the sale of most of Barings to ING were partly because they did not understand the structure of the deal being offered to them.

ING will pay £5 million to the administrators of Barings plc, for distribution to the bondholders. For its £5 million, ING is effectively buying the £100 million note capital. The £95 million is the value of an indemnity pot that will be used by ING to meet any liabilities arising from its acquisition of Barings.

If, after six years, under the statute of limitations, there is anything left, ING will make a further payment of 20 per cent of the value of the notes to bondholders. This would make 25 per cent. Scottish Amicable, with a £3.3 million investment in the notes, and Legal & General, with another, are not happy. But in the words of Mr Jacobs, they were "treated too well" last year and knew what they were taking on.

Redrow builds up to £16m

BY MARTIN WALLER

AN 11 per cent rise in the average price of houses sold helped to push pretax profits at Redrow Group, the housebuilder that came to the market last year, up 72 per cent to £16.3 million in the half year to December 31.

This figure included a £1.6 million improvement on the interest payment line as a result of the flotation and the non-repetition of a loss on the sale of discontinued operations. Continuing profits, therefore, rose 27 per cent to £15.6 million.

Redrow is paying a maiden interim dividend of 1.05p, out of earnings of 5.2p on a continuing basis. Steve Morgan, the chairman, said the housing market remained fragile, although he believed many of the gloomy reports circulating were unfair comparisons with a mini-boom, ultimately unsustainable, that was experienced last spring.

Redrow has decided, in the light of the "extremely tight" margins in the contracting industry, to shut its construction offshoot.

Tempus, page 26

Hillsdown to sell Maple Leaf Foods stake

BY SUSAN GILCHRIST

HILLSDOWN HOLDINGS, the food group, is planning to sell its 56 per cent stake in Maple Leaf Foods for up to C$680 million (£299 million) in cash.

Wallace McCain, one of the two founding brothers of the McCain frozen foods empire, has joined forces with the Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan Board to buy Maple Leaf and merge it into a new food group.

Under the terms of the offer, Hillsdown would receive a minimum of C$623 million in cash together with a 10 per cent shareholding in the newly enlarged company. It could get up to C$680 million in cash if most of the other Maple Leaf shareholders opt to take shares in the new company.

Sir John Nott, the chairman of Hillsdown, said that the deal would enable the group to concentrate its resources on its core European operations. He added: "The European food industry is changing rapidly and it has presented a lot of new opportunities. We are now in a better position to take advantage of those opportunities."

The deal would reduce gearing from about 40 per cent to less than 10 per cent. "Before this, we would not have looked at a deal much above £100 million," Sir John said. "Now we can look at deals of £500 million." However, he added that the group would not rush into any acquisition.

The news was broadly welcomed in the City. One analyst said: "They have done the right thing, but the price is a bit on the lean side."

The offer is worth up to C$15 a share, an 18 per cent premium to Maple Leaf's closing price of C$12.75 on Friday night.

Sir John has not ruled out the possibility of another buyer entering the frame with a higher bid. The non-executive directors of Maple Leaf have set up a special committee to seek our other interested parties.

Mr McCain was ousted as co-chief executive of McCain Foods last October after a bitter dispute with Harrison McCain, his brother, over succession planning.

Sir John made his approach shortly afterwards with a view to buying his 33 per cent shareholding in McCain. Instead, talks between the two sides led to yesterday's announcement.

Hillsdown first entered the Canadian food market in 1987 with the acquisition of Maple Leaf Mills. The business was merged with Canada Packers three years later and renamed. Hillsdown was left with a 45 per cent stake and then bought a further 11 per cent of the shares.

Tempus, page 26

BARRY GREENWOOD



Rod Sellers yesterday, when British Vita announced a 47 per cent rise in profits in spite of rapidly rising raw material costs

British Vita tops forecasts

BRITISH VITA, the polymers and fibres group, beat City expectations to report a 47 per cent rise in profits (Susan Gilchrist writes). Pretax profits jumped to £49.5 million in the year to December 31, from £33.7 million previously, exceeding analysts' £45 million forecasts.

Rod Sellers, chief executive, said that the improvement was in spite of rapidly rising raw material costs. Operating margins in continuing businesses rose to 5.9 per cent, from 5.1 per cent.

The group wants to expand in the US and the Far East, where it is under-represented.

A final dividend of 3.95p (3.75p) makes 7.7p (7.4p).

BBA Group returns tothe black

BY SUSAN GILCHRIST

THE recovery of BBA Group gathered pace yesterday as the engineering and motor components returned to the black and beat its dividend forecast.

The group made pre-tax profits of £63.9 million in the year to December 31, compared with a loss of £14.5 million. Bob Quarta, recruited from BTR as chief executive 18 months ago, said the improvement was driven by the elimination of underperforming businesses, higher productivity and cost reductions.

The final dividend is lifted to 3.25p (5.25p), making a total payout of 4.75p (7.50p). Shareholders will be paid on May 26. The total dividend is slightly above the group's forecast of 4.50p. Mr Quarta said the decision to raise it was due to faster than expected progress on profitability.

The group's disposal programme, which has raised about £130 million to date, continues with a further £200 million of disposals expected. Mr Quarta refused to comment on reports that BBA was on the verge of selling AP, its motor components subsidiary.

Mr Quarta said the group was looking to make acquisitions. He said the group could finance any deals without tapping shareholders for funds.

Tempus, page 26

THE TIMES
Win a £6,000 PEP



A Personal Equity Plan (PEP) is a way of investing money out of the reach of the tax man and *The Times*, in association with TSB Bank, is offering you the chance to win a £6,000 PEP.

Answer the questions which appeared on Saturday and which will reappear on Friday, collect four of the six PEP tokens which are appearing each day, and you could win an investment in your choice of three TSB unit trusts:

- The TSB UK Income Fund aims to provide a high-income return with the potential for some capital growth over the longer term, from investments in Britain;
- The TSB UK Growth Fund invests in a wide range of UK ordinary shares and aims for long-term capital growth;
- The TSB Worldwide Growth Fund aims for long-term capital growth from a broad spread of international securities, with at least half of the fund invested in Europe.

These three funds, which were launched in November 1994, have all ranked in the top quartile of their particular unit trust sectors over the past three months.*

Because of the regulations governing PEPs, winners will receive a holding in the unit trust of their choice. Provided they are eligible, they will be able to convert this to a PEP at no cost either immediately or, if they have already taken out a PEP this year, after the end of the current financial year.

A PEP investment is an excellent home for long-term savings, with all income and capital growth exempt from both income tax and capital gains tax. Readers can obtain full details of TSB PEPs at their nearest TSB Bank branch.

How to enter

Collect four of the six tokens which are appearing this week and send them on a postcard with the answer to Saturday's questions plus the tie-breaker by March 15, 1995 to: *The Times* Win a PEP Competition, Week 3, 16 Whitefriars Street, EC4B 2NG. The winner will be selected from all correct entries received by the closing date.

* Source: Micropal offer-to-offer, income tax reinvested. (As at 18.2.95).

THE TIMES
Third week
PEP
Token 3
TSB

BPI expands recyling as raw materials soar

BY SARAH BAGNALL

BRITISH POLYTHENE INDUSTRIES (BPI) plans to expand its recycling activities in the face of rising raw material prices.

Cameron McLatchie, chairman and chief executive, said: "At last recycled products are cheaper." This is because raw materials have leapt 75 per cent over the last year and scrap is a cheaper alternative.

The company, Europe's largest polythene film producer, makes a range of plastic bags, shrink films, wraps and coatings for industries such as food, agriculture and chemicals. Recycling accounts for about one-fifth of the tonnage sold and is used in about two-fifths of the group's products.

Mr McLatchie said the crossover in cost efficiences between new raw materials and scrap was in the process of happening and was not expected to be reversed. "We think the time is right to invest in further equipment for recycling of post-use scrap. We plan to invest about £4 million this year, of which £2 million is for a new washing plant," he said.

Elsewhere, BPI plans to make further bolt-on acquisitions this year, after the seven last year.

His remarks came as BPI announced a 25 per cent leap in pre-tax profits to £19.2 million in the year to December 31. This was achieved in spite of the rise in raw material prices because the group managed to pass them on to customers. Turnover rose 27 per cent to £269 million. The final dividend, payable on May 26, rises from 7.75p to 9.25p, making 13.75p (11.5p). Earnings per share rose 30 per cent to 33p.

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Union Bank of Switzerland

STOCK MARKET  MICHAEL CLARK

Pressure on the dollar reflects badly on shares

INVESTORS were again on the ropes after the dollar came under renewed pressure in world currency markets. The equity market managed to hold above the 3,000 level but it was a close run thing.

Hopes that the equity market could start making headway following the overnight rescue of Barings by ING, the Dutch merchant bank, were quickly dashed as investor attention was focused on currency movements. Renewed weakness by the pound against the mark and the dollar's slump to a new low against the yen again raised the spectre of another rise in interest rates.

As a result, the FT-SE 100 index opened the session nursing a fall of more than 30 points. The ability of the Dow Jones industrial average to more than halve its earlier losses, enabled the index to close above its worst with a fall of 23.2 at 3,001.9.

Turnover was just short of 700 million shares but was artificially swollen by dealings in partly paid shares of the two power generators and speculative support for the water utilities.

Northumbrian Water soared 128p to 869p on learning that Lyonnaise des Eaux, the French water company, intends to make a formal bid for the company. Northumbrian described the statement as unwelcome and said it will disrupt business and prompt prolonged uncertainty.

The group also warned shareholders that there was an unacceptable absence of specific terms and that the French were under no obligation to make a bid. The French group, for its part, expected any offer to be referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission for clarification.

Brokers said they expected the French to make an opening offer of at least 800p a share. Lyonnaise already owns North East Water and would be expected to make extensive cost savings. At current levels the group has a market value of £600 million.

In spite of news of the approach, speculative support among the other water utilities proved selective. **Southern** rose 16p to 567p, **Welsh**, 28p to 637p, **North West**, 4p to 538p, **Severn Trent**, 9p to 529p, **Thames**, 2p to 486p and **Yorkshire**, 9p to 528p.

Private investors are calculated to have made a profit of £30 each from first time trading in the partly paid shares of the power generating twins National Power and PowerGen. They were allowed to subscribe for a minimum of £352 worth of shares in the partly paid form after the sale of the Government's remaining 40 per cent stake in the two companies.



George Simpson, of Lucas, saw the firm's shares jump

National Power, the bigger of the two companies, finished with a premium of 16½p at 186½p as more than 46 million shares changed hands. PowerGen rose 13p to 198½p on turnover of 29 million shares. The underlying share prices were also steady with National Power closing all-square at 456½p as almost 12 million were traded and PowerGen 1p lighter at 491p.

Hillsdown Holdings, the food to furniture group, is to sell its 56 per cent interest in Maple Leaf Foods. Brokers say proceeds from such a disposal could raise about £300 million. Hillsdown has been offered £274 million for the business by the Wallace McCain family and the Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan. Hillsdown will also enjoy a 10 per cent stake in the new company. Its shares responded to the news with a rise of 6p to 182p.

A better than expected dividend payout lifted **BBA** 4p to 196p. The group had previously forecast a payment of 4.5p, so the recommended figure of 4.75p came as a welcome suprise even though it was below last year's 7.5p. BBA was able to make the move after swinging back into the black last year with pre-tax profits of £84.3 million against a previous loss of £11.3 million.

Lucas Industries managed to shrug off recent weakness with a jump of 6p to 187p. The group has just signed a £1 billion deal to supply Volkswagen with fuel injection systems. The contract will create up to 300 jobs during the next three years at its plants Stonehouse, Gloucestershire, and Birmingham.

Only last month the Lucas share price fell from 182p to about 168p after the US Navy announced it planned to sue the company after it was found guilty of falsifying inspection checks on spare parts.

A 28 per cent surge in full year pre-tax profits to £3.2 million at specialist publisher **Metal Bulletin** lifted the shares 3p to 560p. The group, in which EMAP continues to hold a 20 per cent stake, now boasts £8 million in the bank. Trevor Tarring, chairman, is confident of further strong growth and is on the lookout for suitable acquisitions.

Smith & Nephew slipped 2p to 159p after hinting that the group may be on the verge of making a number of acquisitions. The news came as the group announced it had plunged into the red last year with pre-tax losses of £5.5 million against a profit of £164.9 million last time. The figure was struck after losses of £150 million at its Ioptex division and restructuring costs totalling £27 million.

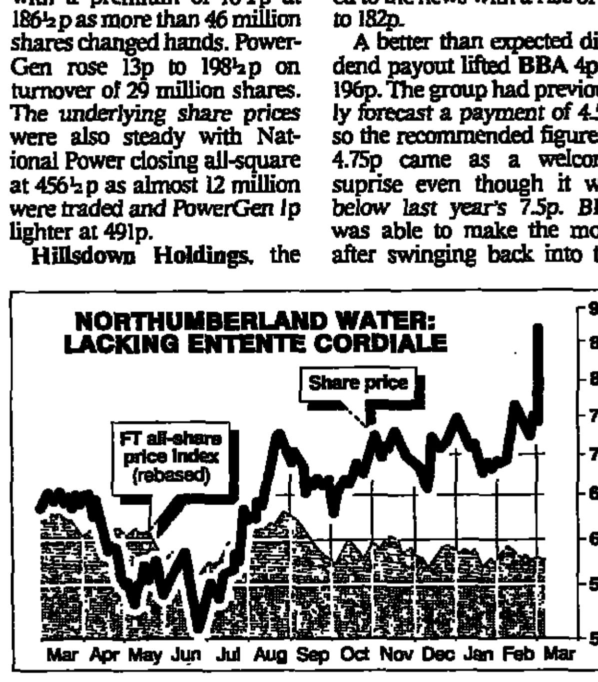
☐ **GILT-EDGED**: Gilts enjoyed an early mark-up as investors responded to weakness in the dollar and devaluation of the peseta and escudo. However, it proved short-lived, and prices were soon drifting again along with other European bond markets.

In the futures pit, the June series of the long gilt finished £11/32 lower at £101 19/32 in thin trading which saw 42,500 contracts completed.

Among conventional issues Treasury 8 per cent 2013 lost £11/32 at £94⅞, while at the shorter end Treasury 8 per cent 2000 was five ticks off at £97 15/32.

☐ **WALL STREET**: Shares on the New York Stock Exchange were sliding at midday, under pressure from a weak dollar. Dow utilities were in retreat as a result of higher interest rates. The Dow Jones industrial average was down 21.10 points at 3,968.51.

NORTHERN IRELAND ELECTRICITY rose 9p to 353p as 1 million shares changed hands in a thin market. The shares have been added to the list of likely takeover targets among the utilities. City speculators have been linking NI Electricity's name with that of Scottish Power.



MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):	
Dow Jones	3968.51 (-21.10)
S&P Composite	482.64 (-2.78)
Tokyo:	
Nikkei Average	17040.72 (+1.10)
Hong Kong:	
Hang Seng	8093.91 (-91.24)
Amsterdam:	
EOE Index	402.12 (-3.48)
Sydney:	
AO	1891.6 (-10.8)
Frankfurt:	
DAX	2070.32 (-39.17)
Singapore:	
Straits	2126.99 (-6.01)
Brussels:	
General	6842.75 (-107.55)
Paris:	
CAC-40	1773.25 (-21.99)
Zurich:	
SKA Gen	608.30 (-10.30)
London:	
FT 30	2287.4 (-14.2)
FT 100	3001.9 (-23.2)
FT-SE Mid 250	3394.7 (+3.3)
FT-SE Eurotrack 100	1261.18 (-21.88)
FT A All-Share	1485.46 (-7.94)
FT Non Financials	1608.43 (-7.21)
FT Gold Mines	n/a
FT Fixed Interest	109.68 (-0.27)
FT Govt Secs	91.04 (-0.09)
Bargains	26649
SEAQ Volume	692.5m
USM (Datastrm)	146.11 (-0.12)
US$	1.6412 (+0.0162)
German Mark	2.3021 (-0.0273)
Exchange Index	87.7 (-0.2)
Bank of England official close (4pm)	
£:ECU	1.2409
£:SDR	1.0679
RPI	146.0 Jan (3.3%) Jan 1987=100

RECENT ISSUES

Bath Press (10)	12½	...
Colleagues	126	...
GET Group (125)	128	...
Inv Tst of Inv Tsts	*84*	*-1*
Inv Tst of Inv Tsts Wts	56	...
Lazard Birla Ida	50	-½
Lazard Birla Ida Wts	29	-¼
MCIT S Cap (35)	34	...
MCIT S Inc (35)	36	...
Melrose Energy Wts	4½	...
Nat Power (p/p) (476)	186½	...
Photobition (150)	153	...
PowerGen (p/p) (512)	198½	...
Throgmorton Dual	101	...
Wessex Trust	11	...
Zotefoams (145)	178	+2

RIGHTS ISSUES

Cadbury Sch p/p	189	-5
Dalgety p/p (335)	67	-2
Euro Colour n/p (57)	21	...
Shorco n/p (90)	1	...
Torex Hire n/p (50)	*2½*	...

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:	
SG Warburg	691p (+10p)
Caradon	245p (+6p)
RMC Gp	951p (+12p)
Redland	435p (+7p)
Henlys	284p (+15p)
Delta	430p (+9p)
Lucas	187p (+6p)
Hillsdown	182p (+6p)
Relyon	290p (+23p)
Br Polythene	506p (+13p)
David Smith	548p (+11p)
FALLS:	
Antofagasta	253p (-10p)
Broken Hill	809p (-42p)
Bespak	305p (-11p)
Utd Friendly	*573p (-7p)*
Carlton Comm	878p (-11p)
Thomson Corp	755p (-10p)
Woodside	221p (-11p)
Glaxo	648p (-11p)
Inveresk	139p (-8p)
ADT	675p (-20p)
Cable Wireless	370p (-7p)

Closing Prices Page 29

TEMPUS

S&N's healthy appetite

SMITH & NEPHEW is right to be searching out acquisitions. The upheaval in the healthcare industry is gathering pace, leaving manufacturers needing critical mass to survive.

Being a bit player in a large-scale production is not enough. Companies have to be the stars of the performance in order to catch the attention and purses of the new breed of bulk buyers that dominate the healthcare market.

Smith & Nephew has the necessary body weight in four of its product areas. But, for example, the company has just 8 per cent of the orthopaedic implants market, insufficient to guarantee supply contracts.

Besides bolt-on acquisitions to bolster its main product areas, S&N, with no debt, could well afford to make a sizeable purchase in an entirely new product area. But the need for critical mass means the likely target company would have to be generating sales of about £150 million to £200 million to make it attractive.

Acquisitions would improve the company's earning potential, but the management has attracted criticism for mistakes in the past, such as the purchase of Ioptex, a lens business sold last August. The wounds of that expensive escapade are still fresh.

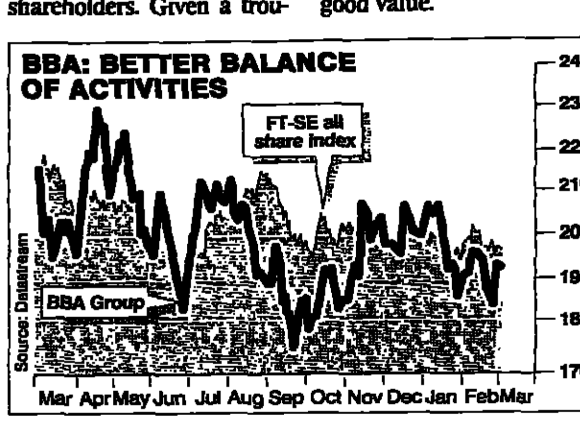
But looking ahead, operating margins are unlikely to rise from their current level of 18.2 per cent, while pricing pressures are likely to remain. In its present guise, S&N could hope to sustain sales growth of about 7 per cent but compared with the drugs sector this looks less than exciting. The shares at 159p are trading on a prospective PE of about 14 times, a level which is fair, unless acquisitions improve the picture.

BBA

TWO years ago, BBA was a sprawling mass of unrelated businesses with unexciting earnings growth. Today, under the stewardship of Bob Quarta, the aggressive new chief executive, it is a more tightly focused group. Its earnings prospects are healthier too — the group looks set to beat its target of achieving 10 per cent margins by 1996. Margins reached 9.4 per cent in the second half of last year and, with further benefits from productivity improvements to come, they should pass 10 per cent in the coming months.

Margins will also be boosted by the sale of underperforming operations. Businesses that do not conform to its criteria — leading players in a global market or highly profitable specialists — have been unceremoniously earmarked for disposal. Some £130 million has been raised so far and with another £200 million or more to come, the group has built up a substantial war chest to fund acquisitions in the rapidly-growing markets of Asia and South America. It can easily swallow a £100 million deal without having to call on shareholders. Given a troubled history of paper-funded acquisitions — BBA launched four rights issues in eight years — shareholders will be mightily relieved to hear it.

The group has come a long way but there is scope for further progress. On a prospective p/e of about 14 times, the shares still look good value.



Hillsdown

HILLSDOWN is doing the sensible thing in off-loading its 56 per cent stake in Maple Leaf Foods. The business has never delivered spectacular returns and has diverted attention from the group's core European markets.

The stake was also something of a financial straitjacket. Although Hillsdown got its share of the profits, it did not see its share of Maple Leaf's cash, apart from dividend payments. At the interim stage last September, that business had C$112 million (£51 million) of cash in its balance sheet but locked away in Canada, far from Hillsdown's eager hands. This deal provides a way of releasing that value.

The only other option was for Hillsdown to buy the rest of Maple Leaf outright. Rightly, the group decided such a move would be too expensive and would prevent it from doing deals elsewhere. This way, the sale proceeds will reduce gearing to less than 10 per cent, enabling the group to spend money acquiring higher margin businesses in Europe. Hillsdown can also do bigger deals — an acquisition of £500 million is now conceivable without recourse to shareholders. With the European food industry in the process of unprecedented change, that can only be a competitive advantage. The deal looks sound at this price, let alone if a higher bidder emerges.

Redrow

Whatever Redrow's virtues as a housebuilder, the shares have fallen along with the rest of the building sector in line with the generally negative sentiment towards that industry. There seems little reason why this trend, unfair though it may seem, will not continue. Redrow shares, therefore, now stand at three quarters of the level at which they were placed in May last year. The company enjoys a strong balance sheet. Its product range is well regarded, and a land bank sufficient for 7,800 homes is sufficient for six and a half years' of completions. More significantly, Redrow is not required to boost its volumes to achieve higher profits — these will inevitably come from the refinement of the prodcut mix and the gradual trading out of the lower-price units in the south east acquired as part of Costain Homes, a deal that brought with it £96 million of tax losses for use by Redrow.

Yet the shares now sell on exactly ten times' this year's earnings, on market forecasts of a little more than £30 million pre-tax. They will not return to favour before the rest of the sector, which for its part requires a hefty but unlikely dose of house price inflation before investors will look seriously again.

EDITED BY MARTIN WALLER

COMMODITIES

LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE

COCOA

Mar	1022-1030	May	1049-1047
May	1013-1012	Jul	1052-1050
Jul	1023-1022	Sep	1059-1055
Sep	1029-1028	Dec	1070-1067
Dec	1025-1024		
Mar	1033-1032		Volume: 6574

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

Mar	3230-3210	Nov	3040-3030
May	3175-3170	Jan	3025-3010
Jul	3105-3100	Mar	3010-3000
Sep	3064-3062		Volume: 1675

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		Dec	342.5-39.2
Spot: 394.8		*Mar*	339.4-35.6
May	387.5-87.0	May	339.2-34.7
Aug	374.5-73.5	Aug	337.2-31.7
Oct	348.5-46.6		Volume: 657

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

Average fatstock prices at representative markets on March 3

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB:	89.94	122.31	121.00
(+/-)	+3.29	-0.90	-0.06
Eng/Wales:	89.94	123.23	120.94
(+/-)	+3.29	+0.15	+0.27
(%)	-28.0	-35.0	-18.0
Scotland:	unq	119.68	121.36
(+/-)	...	-4.02	-1.31
(%)	...	-3.0	-7.0

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm)

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	16.80	+0.10
Brent 15 day (Apr)	16.85	+0.10
Brent 15 day (May)	16.80	+0.15
W Texas Intermediate (Apr)	*18.60*	*+0.10*
W Texas Intermediate (May)	18.40	+0.10

PRODUCTS ($/MT)

Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

Premium Gas .15	B: 172 (n/c)	O: 174 (n/c)
Gasoil *EEC*	148 (n/c)	149 (n/c)
Non EEC 1H Apr	148 (-1)	151 (+1)
Non EEC 1H May	150 (+1)	151 (+1)
3.5 Fuel Oil	105 (+1)	107 (n/c)
Naphtha	170 (n/c)	172 (n/c)

IPE FUTURES (GNI Ltd)

GAS OIL

Mar	145.75-46.00	Jun	147.50-47.75
Apr	147.50-47.75	Jul	149.00-49.25
May	147.50-47.75		Vol: 13722

BRENT (6.00pm)

Apr	16.86-16.87	Jul	unq
May	16.77-16.78	Aug	-
Jun	16.70-16.71		Vol: 10226

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

WHEAT (close £/t)		BARLEY (close £/t)	
Mar	108.75	Mar	103.15
May	110.30	May	106.65
Jul	111.25	Sep	97.25
Sep	96.80	Nov	99.55
Nov	99.60	Jan	101.20
Volume: 158		Volume: 10	

POTATO (£/t)	Open	Close
Apr	320.0	310.5
May	340.0	344.5
Jul	unq	...
		Volume: 162

RUBBER (No 1 RSS Cif p/k)

Apr 120.75-121.25

BIFFEX (GNI Ltd $10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Mar 95	2150	2130	2155
Apr 95	2160	2136	2150
May 95	2135	2120	2125
Jul 95	1875	1870	1875
Vol: 201 lots			Open interest: 4076

Index 2072 +6

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE

(Official) (Volume prev day) — Rudolf Wolff

	Cash	3mth	Vol
Copper Gde A ($/tonne)	2924.0-2925.0	2898.0-2900.0	1654075
Lead ($/tonne)	594.00-595.00	608.00-609.00	371325
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1045.0-1046.0	1069.0-1070.0	561550
Tin ($/tonne)	5405.0-5410.0	5500.0-5505.0	15590
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1869.0-1870.0	1906.0-1907.0	1461450
Nickel ($/tonne)	7810.0-7815.0	7945.0-7950.0	87486

LIFFE OPTIONS

Series		Calls Apr	Calls Jul	Calls Oct	Puts Apr	Puts Jul	Puts Oct
Alld Dom.	500	19½	27	38½	9	23½	24½
(*507)	550	2½	6½	17	43½	54½	54½
Argyll	260	22	25½	30½	3½	8½	12
(*275½)	280	10	15	19½	11½	19	22
ASDA	60	9	11	11½	0	1	2
(*68½)	70	1½	5	5½	3	4½	6
Boots	460	22½	32½	38½	5	16	18½
(*473)	500	4	13	20	28	39½	41
Br Airways	360	29½	38	43	3½	11	15
(*383)	390	10½	21	27	14½	25½	29½
BP	390	16½	24½	31	7	12½	17½
(*396½)	420	4½	11½	17½	25½	29	34
Br Steel	140	15½	18½	21	1	3	4½
(*153½)	160	3	7	10½	9	12	13½
C & W	360	19½	29	37	6½	15½	18½
(*370)	390	5½	15	23	23	32	35
CU	493	20½	—	—	15½	—	—
(*507½)	543	2	—	—	54½	—	—
ICI	650	35½	55½	63½	6	14	21½
(*675)	700	11½	28	37½	29½	37	45½
Kingfishr.	420	25	32½	42½	10½	18½	22
(*437½)	460	5½	14½	24½	36	42	44½
Land Sec.	550	45½	52½	57	1½	11	13½
(*590)	600	10½	20	27½	17	35½	38
M & S	360	22	28½	34	2½	9	12
(*376)	390	5½	12½	19	16½	25	27½
Nat West	460	30	43½	50	6½	12	18½
(*481)	500	8½	21½	29½	25½	30½	38
Sainsbury	390	26	33	39½	2½	11	13½
(*410)	420	8	15½	24	14	26	28
Shell	650	45½	48½	59½	4½	10	16
(*693)	700	7½	19½	31	28	34	39
Smkl Bch.	460	41½	52	60½	3½	10	13½
(*495½)	500	14	28	37½	15	25	29½
Storehse	200	18	22½	25½	0½	4½	5½
(*215½)	220	5½	10½	14	7½	13	14
Trafalgar	60	5½	8½	10½	1½	3	4
(*63)	70	1½	3½	6	7½	8½	9½
Unilever.	1150	30	50½	76½	25	35	43½
(*1166½)	1200	8½	27	52	59½	65½	72
Zeneca	850	28½	51	66	28½	39½	47½
(*864)	900	11½	29½	44½	62½	69½	76½

Series		Calls May	Calls Aug	Calls Nov	Puts May	Puts Aug	Puts Nov
Grnd Met.	360	24½	30½	37	6	11	13
(*375)	390	8	15	21½	20	25	28
Ladbroke.	160	14½	19	22	3½	6½	9
(*172)	180	4½	9½	12½	14	17	19
Utd Bisc	330	15	21	26	15½	19	23½
(*334½)	360	5½	11½	14½	37½	39½	43

March 6, 1995 Tot: 33886 Call: 16713 Put: 17173 FT-SE Call: 7029 Put: 5625

*Underlying security price.

Series		Calls Apr	Calls Jul	Calls Oct	Puts Apr	Puts Jul	Puts Oct
BAA	420	19½	29	36	6	14	17
(*430½)	450	5	—	—	22½	—	—
Thames W	460	32	42	46	2½	14½	19
(*486)	500	8	19	24½	20	35½	40

Series		Calls May	Calls Aug	Calls Nov	Puts May	Puts Aug	Puts Nov
BAT Ind	420	14	23	28½	23	31	34½
(*421)	460	3½	9½	15	53½	58½	61
BTR	300	13½	21½	25½	9½	13	17½
(*310)	330	4	9	12½	30	31½	35½
Br Aero	448	28½	—	—	13	—	—
(*467)	487	11	—	—	34	—	—
Br Telcm.	360	26½	33½	37	4	10	13½
(*378)	390	9	16½	21	17	25	28½
Cadbury	409	29½	40	—	6½	10½	—
(*427)	447	9½	19½	—	24	28½	—
Guinness.	390	29½	35½	40½	6	10	13
(*415)	420	10½	19	24½	20½	24½	27
GEC	280	15	20½	23	5½	12	14
(*286)	300	5½	10½	14	16½	23½	25
Hanson	220	17½	20½	22½	2½	5½	8
(*232½)	240	6	9½	12½	11	15	17½
LASMO	140	14	18½	21½	3	4½	6
(*151)	160	4	8	11	13	14½	15½
Lucas	180	13	19½	23	6	9	13
(*187)	200	4½	10½	14	17½	20	24
Pilkingtn	160	11½	14	17½	3½	7	8½
(*166)	180	2½	5	8	15	18	19½
Prudential	300	10	18	20	12½	16	20½
(*303½)	330	2½	7½	9½	36½	38	40½
Redland	420	22½	30	34	15	23	27
(*434½)	460	4½	13	18	45	49½	52½
R-Royce	140	12½	16½	18½	3½	6½	8
(*149½)	160	3½	7½	10	15½	17½	18½
Tesco	240	15	18½	22	6	9	11½
(*250½)	260	4½	9	12½	18	20	22½
Vodafone.	180	14½	19	23½	5	8½	10½
(*187½)	200	5½	9½	14½	15½	19	21
Williams	300	30	33½	35½	3½	8	11½
(*325½)	330	9½	16	19½	16½	22	26½

FT-SE INDEX (*3003)

	2900	2950	3000	3050	3100	3150
Calls						
Mar	103	62	30½	11½	3	1
Apr	123	88½	59	37	21½	11
May	142½	110½	81½	59½	40½	26
Jun	153½	124	95	73½	53½	39
Dec	247½	—	188	—	141	—
Puts						
Mar	7	15½	34½	66½	109	159
Apr	30	46	67½	96½	131½	172
May	43	60½	81	109	141	177½
Jun	54	73½	94	122½	152½	188½
Dec	101½	—	141½	—	193½	—

Series		Calls Mar	Calls Jun	Calls Sep	Puts Mar	Puts Jun	Puts Sep
Abby Nat.	420	20½	25	34½	3½	13½	19½
(*439½)	460	1	8½	16½	35	38	42½
Amstrad	150	17½	21½	—	0	3	—
(*167)	175	2	6½	—	9	13½	—
Barclays	600	10	25	37½	16	28	37½
(*605½)	650	0	8½	19	60½	63½	69½
Blue Circ.	260	14½	22	27½	1	10½	15½
(*273)	280	2½	11½	18	8½	21	26½
Br Gas	280	13½	19	23	0	7½	10½
(*292½)	300	1½	7½	12½	8	18½	21
Dixons	200	9	18	21½	1½	7	12
(*207½)	220	0½	7½	11½	13	17½	23
Forte	220	14½	19	24½	0½	6	9½
(*233½)	240	2	8½	14½	7½	16½	19½
Hillsdwn	180	4	9	12½	2	9½	13
(*182)	200	0	2½	6	18	25½	27
Lonrho	140	5	13	15	1	6	9
(*143½)	160	0	5	6½	16½	18½	20½
Sears	90	8	10	11½	0	1½	3
(*98)	100	1	3½	6½	3	6½	8
Thrn Eml	1000	36	68	79	1½	16½	34
(*1032½)	1050	6	38½	49½	21½	37½	59
Tomkins	220	12	20½	24½	0½	5½	10½
(*231)	240	1	9½	14½	9½	14½	21
TSB	220	13	23½	28½	0½	7½	11
(*232)	240	1½	12½	18	9	17	21
Wellcome	1000	45½	56	66	4	15½	23
(*1035½)	1050	17	29½	39½	34½	42	47½

Series		Calls Apr	Calls Jul	Calls Oct	Puts Apr	Puts Jul	Puts Oct
Glaxo	600	56½	74½	84½	4½	14	24
(*648)	650	23	43½	53½	21	33	46
HSBC	600	34½	48½	61	19½	32	42
(*626)	650	10	27	39	50	61	69½
Reuter	420	24½	37	47½	8½	16	20
(*439½)	460	6½	18	28½	31½	38	41

Series		Calls May	Calls Jul	Calls Oct	Puts May	Puts Jul	Puts Oct
Royal Ins.	260	20½	26½	30½	7½	10½	15½
(*270)	280	9½	16	20½	17	20½	25½

Series		Calls Mar	Calls Jun	Calls Sep	Puts Mar	Puts Jun	Puts Sep
Fisons	140	11	19	23½	1	8½	11
(*150)	160	1	10	14½	11	19½	21½

Series		Calls May	Calls Aug	Calls Nov	Puts May	Puts Aug	Puts Nov
Eastern Gp	650	65	78	84½	7½	22½	28½
(*697½)	700	33½	49	56	26	45	52

Series		Calls Mar	Calls Jun	Calls Sep	Puts Mar	Puts Jun	Puts Sep
Natl Pwr.	420	38½	49	52	0	6½	10
(*458)	460	6	22	27	6	22	27
Scot Pwr	300	30	39	43½	0	4½	9½
(*329½)	330	5	19	24½	5	14½	21½

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Sett	Vol
FT-SE 100	Mar 95	3016.0	3024.0	2984.0	2997.0	14512
Previous open interest: 67859	Jun 95	3021.0	3028.0	2991.0	3002.5	3798
FT-SE 250	Mar 95	3410.0	3410.0	3375.0	3375.0	142
Previous open interest: 4119	Jun 95	3430.0	3430.0	3419.5	3394.5	122
Three Month Sterling	Mar 95	93.20	93.22	93.19	93.21	8681
Previous open interest: 456166	Jun 95	92.48	92.55	92.44	92.49	33086
	Sep 95	91.98	92.04	91.96	92.00	10033
Three Mth Eurodollar	Mar 95				93.68	0
Previous open interest: 2738	*Jun 95*	*93.34*	*93.34*	*93.34*	*93.33*	*10*
Three Mth Euro DM	Mar 95	94.92	94.97	94.92	94.96	22123
Previous open interest: 825098	Jun 95	94.62	94.70	94.62	94.69	58510
Long Gilt	Mar 95	101-23	101-29	101-09	101-10	9874
Previous open interest: 108412	Jun 95	102-00	102-08	101-16	101-19	41718
Japanese Govmt Bond	Mar 95	111.30	111.44	111.28	111.47	176
	Jun 95	110.53	110.62	110.45	110.61	2233
German Gov Bd Bund	Mar 95	90.67	91.31	90.67	91.03	90515
Previous open interest: 212773	Jun 95	90.24	90.83	90.18	90.60	145190
Three month ECU	Mar 95	93.53	93.58	93.47	93.49	1401
Previous open interest: 26437	Jun 95	93.14	93.20	93.10	93.12	1409
Euro Swiss Franc	Mar 95	96.10	96.12	96.10	96.12	1539
Previous open interest: 48301	Jun 95	95.77	95.85	95.77	95.81	3086
Italian Govmt Bond	Mar 95	94.10	94.55	93.30	93.31	9775
Previous open interest: 58616	Jun 95	93.00	94.12	92.90	93.36	43090

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 6¾ Finance Hse 7
Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 5½ Low 4½ Week fixed: 5¾
Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth 6⅛ ; 3 mth 6⅜ . Sell: 2 mth 6⅛ ; 3 mth: 6¼ .

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	6½-6¼	6⅝-6½	6 11/16-6⅝	6 15/16-6 13/16	
Sterling Money Rates:	6⅝-6½	6¾-6½	6 13/16-6¾	7 3/16-7 1/16	7¾-7 11/16
Interbank:	6⅝-6⅜	6¾-6⅝	6 13/16-6¾	7¼-7⅛	7⅞-7 11/16
Overnight: open 6 , close 3¾ .					
Local Authority Deps:	6½	n/a	6¾	6 15/16	7 9/16
Sterling CDs:	6½-6⅜	6 11/16-6 9/16	6 13/16-6 11/16	7-6 13/16	7⅝-7½
Dollar CDs:	6.07	n/a	6.25	6.42	6.82
Building Society CDs:	6⅜-6¼	6⅝-6½	6 13/16-6¾	7⅛-7	7 11/16-7½

ECGD: Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance. Make-up day: Jan 31, 1995 Agreed rates Feb 26, 1995 to Mar 25, 1995 Scheme III: 7.87%. Reference rate Dec 31, 1994 to Jan 31, 1995 Scheme IV & V: 6.624%.

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	6-5¾	6⅛-5⅞	6⅛-6	6½-6⅛	5⅞-4⅞
Deutschemark:	4⅞-4¾	4 15/16-4⅞	5 1/16-4 15/16	5¼-5⅛	5⅛-4¼
French Franc:	6⅛-6⅛	6⅜-6⅛	6¼-6⅛	6 11/16-6 9/16	6½-5⅝
Swiss Franc:	3 7/16-3 5/16	3⅜-3¼	3 5/16-3 3/16	4-3⅞	4⅛-3¾
Yen:	2¼-2	2⅛-2 1/16	2¼-2⅛	2⅜-2¼	2¼-1½

GOLD/PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Bullion: Open $376.60-377.00 Close: $378.50-379.00 High: $378.80-379.30 Low: $376.30-376.80 AM: $376.60 PM: $378.85

Krugerrand: $380.00-382.00 (£231.00-233.00)

Platinum: $407.00 (£246.90) Silver: $4.44 (£2.705) Palladium: $152.90 (£92.95)

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for March 6	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	2.5616-2.5960	2.5616-2.5649	¼-1¼pr	¼-¼ds
Brussels	47.10-47.80	47.10-47.20	5pr-par	15-8pr
Copenhagen	9.2150-9.2990	9.2150-9.2300	¼-¼pr	1-¾pr
Dublin	0.9997-1.0085	0.9997-1.0023	3pr-par	6-2pr
Frankfurt	2.2809-2.3140	2.2809-2.2841	¼-¼pr	1-¾pr
Lisbon	240.66-243.87	240.66-241.30	57-65ds	219-240ds
Madrid	208.40-209.43	208.73-209.03	38-54ds	124-147ds
Milan	2693.10-2753.80	2693.10-2703.00	9-12ds	25-29ds
Montreal	2.3123-2.3295	2.3123-2.3295	0.32-0.42ds	0.62-0.76ds
New York	1.6316-1.6500	1.6316-1.6326	0.05-0.03pr	0.16-0.12pr
Oslo	10.1830-10.2790	10.1830-10.1990	1¼-1pr	4¼-1¾pr
Paris	8.0930-8.1900	8.0930-8.1070	par-¼ds	par-¼ds
Stockholm	11.7830-11.9350	11.7830-11.8070	1¼-2¼ds	5-6¼ds
Tokyo	150.93-153.71	150.93-151.20	¼-¼pr	1¼-1¼pr
Vienna	16.10-16.30	16.10-16.14	2¼-1¼pr	7¼-5¼pr
Zurich	1.9092-1.9410	1.9092-1.9122	¼-¼pr	1¼-1¼pr

Source: Extel — *Premium - pr. Discount - ds.*

DOLLAR RATES

Australia	1.3531-1.3537
Austria	9.85-9.86
Belgium (Com)	28.89-28.90
Canada	1.4153-1.4158
Denmark	5.6467-5.6487
France	4.9615-4.9635
Germany	*1.3995-1.4000*
Hong Kong	7.7305-7.7315
Ireland	1.6354-1.6358
Italy	1654.0-1654.9
Japan	92.75-92.80
Malaysia	2.5450-2.5460
Netherlands	1.5705-1.5710
Norway	6.2324-6.2344
Portugal	147.75-147.85
Singapore	1.4333-1.4343
Spain	126.88-127.03
Sweden	7.2065-7.2165
Switzerland	1.1745-1.1755

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso*	1.6464-1.6492
Australia dollar	2.2258-2.2286
Bahrain dinar	0.614-0.626
Brazil real*	1.3919-1.3962
Cyprus pound	0.724-0.734
Finland markka	*7.065-7.181*
Greece drachma	363.25-370.25
Hong Kong dollar	12.7167-12.7260
India rupee	51.66-52.62
Kuwait dinar KD	0.4815-0.4915
Malaysia ringgit	*4.1865-4.1907*
Mexico peso	*n/a*
New Zealand dollar	2.5603-2.5639
Pakistan rupee	50.25 Buy
Saudi Arabia riyal	6.110-6.236
Singapore dollar	2.3578-2.3609
S Africa rand (fin)	6.3065-6.3433
S Africa rand (com)	*5.8235-5.8296*
U A E dirham	5.9825-6.1065

Barclays Bank GTS • Lloyds Bank

FT-SE VOLUMES

3i	53	Legal & Gn	2,100
ASDA Gp	6,000	Lloyds Bk	2,000
Abbey Natl	1,600	MEPC	1,200
Alld Dom	925	Marks Spr	4,700
Argyll Gp	1,000	NatWst Bk	4,100
Arjo Wiggn	852	Nat Power	12,000
AB Foods	292	Nth Wst W	2,600
BAA	4,000	P & O	753
BAT Inds	5,500	Pearson	385
BOC	617	PowerGen	10,000
BP	6,500	*Prudential*	4,300
BTR	5,100	RMC	2,000
BT	6,800	RTZ	1,800
Bk of Scot	454	Rank Org	424
Barclays	2,200	Reckitt Col	1,900
Bass	2,000	Redland	2,200
Blue Circle	2,100	*Reed Intl*	*1,600*
Boots	1,300	Rentokil	1,300
Bowater	905	Reuters	3,900
Brit Aero	2,600	Rolls Royce	4,500
Brit Airwys	2,600	Ryl Ins	964
Brit Gas	8,100	Ryl Bk Scot	4,600
Brit Steel	2,600	*Sainsbury*	2,700
Burmah Cstl	167	Schroders	72
Cable Wire	2,800	Scot & New	1,100
Cadbury	1,700	Scot Power	384
Caradon	2,200	Sears	3,400
Carlton Cms	607	Svrn Trent	3,700
Cm Union	1,500	Shell Trans	4,200
Courtaulds	666	Siebe	2,000
De La Rue	1,000	SmKl Bch	5,100
Eastern Elec	1,100	Smith Nph	2,900
Enterpr Oil	318	Sthern Elec	596
Forte	1,400	Std Chartd	2,100
GKN	1,700	Sun Allnce	5,200
GRE	3,200	TI Gp	1,200
GUS	2,400	TSB	2,100
Gen Acc	1,700	Tesco	2,900
Gen Elec	7,700	Thames W	2,100
Glaxo	6,600	Thrn EMI	1,300
Granada	1,500	Tomkins	3,400
Grand Met	4,700	*Unilever*	*1,100*
Guinness	3,800	Utd Bisc	622
HSBC	4,200	Vodafone	6,700
Hanson	3,900	Warburg (SG)	720
ICI	3,200	Wellcome	2,400
Inchcape	4,500	Whitbread	1,000
Kingfisher	1,300	Wlms Hld	2,000
Ladbroke	5,500	Wolseley	1,700
Land Secs	599	Zeneca	4,500

WALL STREET

	Mar 3 close	Mar 2 close
AMP Inc	37¼	37¾
AMR Corp	61½	61¼
AT & T	51¼	51½
Abbott Labs	35¾	35¾
Advanced Micro	31¼	29¾
Aetna Life	54¼	54¼
Ahmanson (HF)	18¾	18¼
Air Prod & Chem	48¾	48¼
Albertson's	30¼	30¾
Alcan Alumnm	24¼	24½
Alco Standard	67	67¼
Allied Signal	37¼	38¼
Alum Co of Am	39¼	38¾
Amax Gold Inc	4¼	5
Amerada Hess	49¼	49¾
Amer Brands	37¾	37¼
Amer El Power	32¾	32¼
Amer Express	33¼	33¾
Amer Genl Corp	31¾	31¼
Amer Home Pr	72¼	72¼
Amer Intl	102¾	103½
Amer Stores	24¾	24½
Ameritech	42¼	42¾
Amoco	59¾	59½
Anheuser-Busch	56¾	56¼
Apple Computer	40¾	40
Archer Daniels	19¾	19
Armco	6¼	6¼
Armstrng Wrld	45¼	46½
Asarco	26¾	26½
Ashland Oil	32¾	32¾
Atl Richfield	111½	109¾
Auto Data Pro	62¼	61½
Avery Dennison	36¼	36½
Avon Products	58½	56¼
Baker Hughes	19¾	19¾
Baltim Gas & El	23¼	23¾
Banc One	28¾	28¼
BankAmerica	47¼	47¼
Bank of NY	32¼	33¼
Bankers Tr NY	63½	63½
Barnett Banks	44¼	44¼
Bausch & Lomb	33¼	33¼
Baxter Intl	31¼	31¼
Bectn Dicknsn	53½	53½
Bell Atlantic	52¾	52¼
BellSouth	57¼	58¾
Black & Decker	27¼	26¼
Block (H&R)	39¾	38¼
Boeing	46¼	46¾
Boise Cascade	31¾	31
Borden Inc	12½	12¼
Bristol Myrs Sq	61½	61¼
Browning Ferris	31	30¼
Brunswick	19¾	19¾
Burlington Nthn	55¾	55¼
CBS	65¾	65¾
CNA Financial	73½	73
CPC Intl	53¼	54
CSX	75	75¼
Campbell Soup	46¼	45¼
Can Pacific	13¼	13½
Cptl Cities ABC	87¼	87¼
Carolina Pwr	26¼	27
Caterpillar	49	48¼
Central & SW	23¾	23½
Champion Intl	39¾	40
Chase Manhat	35¼	35¼
Chemical Bk	39¾	39¾
Chevron Corp	46¼	47¼
Chrysler	40¾	41½
Chubb Corp	77¼	77¼
Cigna Corp	75¾	75¾
Citicorp	42¾	44¼
Clorox	61¼	61¼
Coastal Corp	28¼	28¼
Coca Cola	55	55
Colgate-Palmolive	64¼	64¼
Columbia Gas	25¼	26
Compaq Comp	34¾	33¼
Comp Ass Intl	61¼	58¼
Conagra	33	33
Conrail	53¼	53¼
Cons Edison	26¼	26¼
Cons Nat Gas	37	36¼
Cooper Inds	39	38¼
Corning Inc	31¼	31¼
Crown Cork	42¼	42¼
Dana Corp	24	23¾
Dayton Hudson	69¼	70¼
Deere	75¼	73½
Delta Air Lines	58	58¼
Deluxe Corp	28¼	27¼
Detroit Edison	28	28
Digital Equip	33	33½
Dillard Dept St	26¼	26¼
Disney (Walt)	53¼	54¼
Dominion Res	37¾	37¼
Donelley (RR)	34¾	34¾
Dover Corp	59¾	59¾
Dow Chemical	65¾	64¼
Dow Jones	35½	35
Dresser	21	21½
Duke Power	38¼	38¼
Dun & Brdstreet	53¼	52¼
Du Pont	55½	55¼
Eastman Kodak	51¼	51¼
Eaton Corp	49¼	49¼
Emerson Elec	64½	65¼
Engelhard Corp	25¼	26¼
Enron Corp	33¼	33¼
Entergy	22	22
Ethyl Corp	10¼	10¼
Exxon	63¼	63¾
FMC Corp	59¾	59¾
FPL Group	34¾	34¼
Federal Express	62¼	63¾
Fed Nat Mtge	76	76
First Chicago	49¼	49¾
First Interstate	82¼	81¼
First Union Rlty	7¼	7¼
Fleet Finl Grp	31¼	31¾
Fluor Corp	47¼	47¼
Ford Motor	25¾	25¾
GTE Corp	33¾	33¾
Gannett	53¼	52¼
Gap Inc Del	31¼	31
Gen Dynamics	46¾	46¼
Gen Electric	52¼	53¼
Gen Mills	61	61¼
Gen Motors	39¾	39¾
Gen Reinsurance	126¼	127¼
Gen Signal	35¾	35¼
Genuine Parts	38¾	38¾
Georgia Pac	74¼	72¾
Gillette	80¾	79¾
Glaxo ADR	21¼	21¼
Goodrich (BF)	44¼	44¼
Goodyear Tire	37¼	35¾
Grace (W&R)	43¼	44¼
Grt Atl Pac Tea	19¼	19¾
Great Wstn Fin	18¼	18¼
Halliburton	37¼	37¾
Harcourt General	36¼	36¼
Heinz (HJ)	37¼	38¼
Hercules	44	43¼
Hershey Foods	48¼	48¼
Hewlett Packard	116¼	115¼
Hilton Hotels	66¼	68
Home Depot	45¼	45¼
Homestake Mng	15¼	15¼
Honeywell	36	35¼
Household Intl	43¼	43¾
Houston Inds	37¾	37¼
Humana	24	23¼
ITT Corp	95¼	95¼
Illinois Tool	44¼	44¼
Illinova	22¼	22¼
INCO	26¼	26¼
Ingersoll Rand	29¼	29¼
Inland Steel	28¼	28¼
Intel Corp	81¼	79
IBM	79¼	77¼
Intl Flav & Fr	47¼	47¼
Intl Paper	73¼	73¼
James River Va	24¼	24¼
Jnsn & Jnsn	57¼	58¼
Kellogg	55¼	55¼
Kerr-McGee	50	50
Kimberly-Clark	51¼	51¼
Kmart	12¼	12¼
Knight-Ridder	55	54¼
Lilly (Eli)	67	67
Limited Inc	18¼	18¼
Lin Brdcstng	129	128
Lincoln Nat	40¼	40¼
Litton	34¼	35¼
Liz Claiborne	15¼	15
Lockheed	77¼	78¼
Louisiana Pac	27	27
MCI Comm	19¼	19¼
Marriott Intl	31¼	31¼
Marsh & McLnn	81¼	81¼
Masco Corp	26¼	25¼
May Dept St	35¼	35¼
Maytag Corp	16¼	16¼
McDonalds	33	33¼
McDonnell D	56¼	56¼
McGraw Hill	70	70¼
Mead Corp	52¼	53¼
Medtronic	60¼	58¼
Mellon Bk	38¼	38¼
Melville Corp	31¼	32
Merck Inc	41¼	42¼
Merrill Lynch	42¼	42¼
Minnesota Mine	54¼	54¼
Mobil Corp	87¼	88¼
Monsanto	79	79¼
Morgan (JP)	65¼	65¼
Motorola Inc	58¼	58
Natl Medical	15¼	15¼
Natl Semi	17¼	17¼
Natl Service Ind	26¼	26¼
Navistar Intl	13¼	13¼
NBD Bancorp	31	31
NY Times A	21	21¼
Newmont Mng	35¼	36¼
Niag Mohawk	14¼	14¼
Nike B	74¼	74
NL Industries	11¼	11¼
Noram Energy	5¼	5¼
Nordstrom	40¼	41
Norfolk Sthrn	65¼	65¼
Nthn State Pwr	44	44¼
Norwest Corp	25¼	26
Nynex Corp	39¼	39¼
Occidental Pet	19¼	19¼
Ohio Edison	20¼	19¼
Oracle Systems	32¼	31¼
Oryx Energy Co	11	11¼
Owens Corning	34¾	34¾
PPG Industries	36¼	36¼
PNC Bank	25¼	24¾
Paccar Inc	44¼	43¾
Pacificorp	18¼	18¼
Pac Enterprises	24¼	24¼
Pac Gas & Elec	25¾	25¾
Pac Telesis	29¾	29¾
Pall Corp	20	20
Panhandle East	22¼	22¾
Parker Hannifin	45¼	45¾
Peco Energy	25¾	26¼
Penney (JC)	41¼	42¼
Pennzoil	46¼	46¼
Pepsico	38¼	38¼
Pfizer	83¼	83¼
Phelps Dodge	54¼	53¾
Philip Morris	61¼	61
Phillips Pet	34	34¼
Pitney Bowes	35¼	36
Polaroid	30¼	29¾
PriceCostco	13¼	13¼
Procter & Gmbl	66¼	66¼
Providian	34¼	35¼
Pub Serv E & G	27¼	27¼
Quaker Oats	32¼	32¼
Ralston Purina	47¼	47¼
Raychem Corp	40¼	40¼
Raytheon	70¼	70¼
Reebok Intl	36¼	36
Reynolds Metals	49¼	49¼
Roadway Srvcs	51¼	51¼
Rockwell Intl	39¼	39
Rohm & Haas	55¼	55¼
Royal Dutch	113¼	113¼
Rubbermaid	31¼	31¼
Safeco Corp	55¼	55¼
St Paul's Cos	50¼	50¼
Salomon Inc	35	35¼
Santa Fe Pac	21¼	19¼
Sara Lee Corp	25¼	25¼
Scecorp	16	15¼
Schering Plough	78¼	78¼
Schlumberger	57	57¼
Scott Paper	79¼	78¼
Seagram	30¼	30¼
Sears Roebuck	50¼	50¼
Shell Trans	67¼	67¼
Sherwin Wlms	33¼	33¼
Skyline Corp	18¼	18¼
Snap-On-Tools	33¼	33¼
Southern Co	19¼	20
Sthwestern Bell	41	41¼
Sprint Corp	28¼	28¼
Stanley Works	40¼	40¼
Sun Company	29¼	29¼
Sun Microsys	32	30¼
Suntrust	57¼	57¼
Supervalu	26¼	25¼
Sysco Corp	28¼	28¼
TRW Inc	65¼	64¼
TCC Inds	2¼	2¼
Tandem Comp	16¼	16¼
Tandy Corp	45	44¼
Teledyne	22¼	22¼
Temple Inland	47¼	45¼
Tenneco	45	45¼
Texaco	63¼	63¼
Texas Inst	86¼	83¼
Texas Utilities	32	32
Textron	53¼	54¼
Time Warner	38¼	38¼
Times-Mirror A	17¼	18
Timken	35¼	35¼
Torchmark	41¼	41¼
Toys R Us	27¼	27¼
Transamerica	54¼	54¼
Travelers	37¼	38
Tribune	55¼	54¼
Tyco Labs	52¼	51¼
UST Inc	29¼	29
UAL	95¼	96
USX Marathon	16¼	16¼
Unicom	24¼	25¼
Unilever NV	123¼	123
Union Camp	50	50
Union Carbide	28	27¼
Union Pacific	51¼	52
Unisys Corp	9¼	9¼
USAIR Group	5¼	5¼
USF&G Corp	14¼	14¼
US Life	37	37¼
US West	38¼	38¼
United Tech	66	66¼
Unocal Corp	28¼	28¼
Upjohn	34¼	35¼
VF Corp	50¼	51¼
WMX Tech	26¼	26¼
Wal-Mart Stores	25	24¼
Warner-Lambert	76¼	76¼
Wells Fargo	158¼	160¼
Westinghouse El	14¼	14¼
Weyerhaeuser	38¼	39¼
Whirlpool	53¼	54¼
Whitman	18¼	18¼
Winn Dixie	55¼	55¼
Woolworth	15¼	15¼
Wrigley (Wm) Jr	43¼	44¼
Xerox	113¼	113¼
Yellow Corp	20¼	20¼

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THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Smoke-free results?

SIR Patrick Sheehy will able to put one hand on his heart tomorrow when presenting BAT's year-end results and admit that, yes, he has undergone a period of training in the weird and wonderful world of derivatives. And that his teachers came from BAT's in-house financial team. He felt he should further educate himself. However, Sir Patrick, still with the same hand on heart, will be able to say that the exercise had nothing to do with BAT, but rather with his being on BP's board and audit committee. With his other hand, Sir Patrick can be expected tomorrow to reach for the ashtray. He is, after all, chairman of a multinational tobacco group, and he enjoys smoking. As far as he and his ashtray are concerned, it is somewhat unfortunate that National No Smoking day tomorrow just happens to coincide with the day BAT long ago decided to announce its year-end results.

Banking blades

ING Bank may well have beaten ABN Amro in the race for Baring Brothers, but, in the same weekend, it lost to Amro in the annual Business Houses Rowing Club Eights race, organised by Cygnet RC, the Civil Service rowing club, and held on the River Thames between Putney Pier and Barnes Bridge. The race regularly attracts crews from Dutch and British banks, and, on Saturday, Nat West Bank II came first. ABN Amro was sixth and ING Bank was thirteenth.

Going Dutch

THERE is a northern expression "clogs to clogs in three generations", which is a polite way of saying that grandsons of self-made businessmen usually ruin the family business in three generations. The Baring family can trace its roots back to Holland, which makes it ironic that Internationale Nederlanden Groep (ING) has come to the merchant bank's rescue. Or, as the saying might go, "clogs to clogs in umpteen generations".



Bonus question

WHATEVER the outcome of today's *tête-à-tête* between Greville Janner and Cedric Brown, the idea that British Gas's chief executive hid matters from his inquisitor, last time round, would appear a bit rich. On *The World Tonight* last month, Janner was asked why he wanted to recall Cedric Brown. Q: "He's already spoken to you once. What do you want him to tell you that he hasn't already told you?" Janner: "We got a letter today from Richard Giordano, the chairman, in which he sets out details of a bonus scheme which we didn't know about." Q: "And you only heard about that today?" A: "Yes, and it's the unanimous view of our committee that he ought to come back and tell us about this and explain to us what the bonus scheme is and also tell us why he didn't make full disclosure ..." Strange, because British Gas's memorandum to the Employment Select Committee appeared to answer the question as long ago as January 17.

COLIN CAMPBELL







Sir Desmond Pitcher, left, of North West Water, Yve Newbold, of Hanson, and Sir Richard Greenbury, who is to chair the inquiry on top pay

Company executives pay the price of public anger

Philip Bassett looks at the mounting concern in the UK about the levels of top pay, particularly in the utilities

Greville Janner, the Labour MP who chairs the Commons' Employment Committee before which Cedric Brown, the chief executive of British Gas, will once again appear today to defend his pay package, is clear on the issue of top pay in the privatised utilities. "There is public anger at the greed," he says. "But it's not just Labour. There is a real feeling of discomfort about it — on all sides."

Mr Brown's enforced return to the Commons committee corridor marks a new highpoint in the row that will not go away — over the pay levels and increases of top company executives, especially those in the privatised utilities of gas, electricity, water and telecoms.

"Public outrage", as Mr Janner describes it, reached such a peak last week that after months of insisting that the law had no place in regulating pay, especially boardroom pay, John Major was forced into a humiliating retreat, acknowledging how "distasteful" some executives' pay rises were, and promising legislation if necessary.

Mr Brown is central to the affair. Since news broke last November of his 75 per cent pay rise, the issue of his pay and that of other utility bosses has refused to disappear. His recall to the all-party committee today stems from press disclosures that in addition to his pay rise, a new bonus system could see his salary double to almost £1 million.

While it may seem puzzling that a senior figure in a private company has to appear again before MPs — he was last before the committee at the end of January — Mr Brown, who is now paid £475,000, has little choice. Under Commons' standing orders, the select committee has the power to "send for persons, papers and records". If summoned witnesses do not attend, the committee can invoke its formal powers to require them to do so. If that fails, the Commons would be asked to uphold the order. If a witness still disobeys, then the House has the power to put them in prison.

Such a clash is rare, although the temperature over utility executives' pay is such that the committee is in the foothills of such a row with Sir Desmond Pitcher, chairman of North West Water — salary £338,000, a 571 per cent pay rise since privatisation — who refused to disclose details of the company's £60,000 charitable donations. Buoyed by the Prime Minister's U-turn, and angered by failing to get the full picture when Mr Brown first appeared, MPs on the committee will try today to push the British Gas chief hard, especially since the committee believes it has been making the running on the issue of utility pay (a distinction many newspapers and the Labour Party front-bench claims too).

Whoever has been leading, it is clear that defensiveness has led ministers and business leaders to make mistakes — of which the remark by Sir Iain Vallance, of British Telecom, that he might like to swap jobs with a junior hospital doctor since their work would be more relaxing than his has been the most pronounced and damaging. Everyone involved now has on their lips a one-word salvation: Greenbury. Sir Richard Greenbury, the £689,000 chairman of Marks & Spencer, is now heading a high-level committee on top pay established, somewhat reluctantly, by the CBI at the request of the Prime Minister. Its findings are now seen as the key to the outcome of the top pay row. Indeed, Mr Major's legislative pledge was wholly conditional on any recommendations from the Greenbury committee requiring legislative back-up.

For some, Greenbury is little more than a whitewash, stuffed with business insiders. Others see it as a panic: as Sir Desmond puts it, a "political response to a political problem". But it is likely to be the mechanism for a solution. What is happening on the committee? And what is it likely to conclude? After it was set up on January 16, Sir Richard issued an edict of silence, to which most of its members have adhered and are likely to do so until its report is revealed, probably in July.

So far, the 11-strong committee has met fully twice, though it has establishedseveral sub-groups to look at particular issues. Mountains of written evidence are streaming in to its secretariat, provided free of charge by KPMG, the accountant. A questionnaire is being sent out to sample opinion. Private meetings with people to obtain oral evidence are being arranged. Its main areas of work are starting to emerge: the make-up, independence and effectiveness of the remuneration committees that set executive directors' pay; pay practices, such as share options, bonus, contract terms and lengths and payoffs for failure; the extent of the disclosure of directors' pay, including its timing and mechanism by which pay and other benefits are set; and how best to tell people, including shareholders, about salary levels and increases.

So far, the committee appears completely open in a number of key areas, including, in particular, what greater role — indeed, what genuinely operational role — shareholders should have in either setting or approving salary packages and the question of share options that are unrelated to directors' own performances, or indeed a company's performance, so that share options can still be realised for a profit even if a company has in fact under-performed its stock market sector.

But Greenbury is likely to come up with a code of practice, which may well need changes to company law. The real signal taken by committee members from the Prime Minister's statement is that they now know they need not shy away from proposals which they know would need legislative change.

Will all that, or something like it, be sufficient ? It depends on what the political temperature on the issue of executive and especially utility pay is at the time it reports — though based on the past five months, few company leaders are sanguine that the issue will have disappeared by then.

Clearly, its likely emphasis on transparency and openness will be important, and helpful to business and the Government. But as Yve Newbold, Hanson company secretary, acknowledges, more will be needed. The problem is in the presentation, but only partly — the core of the problem lies in the public outrage not at not being told enough, but at utility leaders' pay levels and rises simply being far too high.

Many MPs and some business leaders believe that the public is genuinely outraged at the pay levels and increases for utility bosses who have done little but ride the inevitable success of their companies in monopoly markets and have seen ever larger slices of big profits creamed off into their own salary packages.

They believe that public concern has been stoked by such rises coming after many years of enforced general pay restraint during the recession, and compare them with rises of 3 per cent being given nationally to nurses this year, for instance. Union leaders are seizing on this feeling in formulating pay claims, and the TUC will emphasise it today when it launches a campaign on poverty pay among part-time workers.

From the Prime Minister onwards, government politicians and business leaders hope the Greenbury committee can solve the problem. They will hope that Greenbury can come up with some ideas — and some sensitivities — that the privatised utilities have signally failed to show over the issue of their executives' pay. Otherwise, Mr Brown is unlikely to be the only utility boss making a return trip to the Commons.



Cedric Brown, of British Gas, will be defending his pay package again today

Avoid tough questions at your peril

Corporate insolvency strikes when a blind eye is turned, warns **Graham Searjeant**

The more revelations that are made about the failings of Barings, and the more incredible they become, the easier it is to paint the causes of this City disaster as "unique".

The Governor of the Bank of England was quick to do so, in the vital cause of allaying fear in the financial markets. The Chancellor eagerly followed to avoid responsibility. They might be the last to know. On reflection, only the terminally complacent would now think what happened to Barings "unique".

On the contrary, this novelletish scandal bears uncanny similarities to a list of previous company collapses. The thinking that allowed it questions a generation of fashionable management thinking that is even now wreaking new havoc, for instance at British Gas.

One of the historic lessons of corporate insolvency is that disaster is most likely to strike when directors and investors choose not to ask awkward questions — or when auditors cannot.

Ferranti was laid low by the purchase of ISC because no-one could ask too many questions about big, lucrative but hush-hush international arms orders. As it turned out, they did not exist. Shareholders in Polly Peck did not ask too many questions about the suspiciously vast profits coming from tiny northern Cyprus. Directors of British & Commonwealth chose not to doubt the splendid-looking profits of Atlantic Computers. They did not fully understand the arcane world of computer leasing. Barings made huge profits from derivatives in a far-off country. Don't rock the boat. Human nature will always incline not to look a gift-horse too closely in the mouth. Human nature wants to avoid joint responsibility too. The role of that motive in modern management has not be questioned enough. Vast industrial empires have been built on the principle of devolving responsibility to managers of individual profit centres. Traditional companies are catching up as fast as they can, or faster.

> The Barings scandal bears uncanny similarities to other collapses

Unravelliing the centre, we are told, unleashes local managers' energies. It gives rein to initiative and frees them from the stultifying burden of head-office bureaucracy. And so it does.

But autonomy from head office only goes as far as the bottom line, often only the top line of the weekly, monthly or quarterly financial figures that managers of subsidiaries or departments must submit to the spiders at the centre of the web.

The pressure to meet the bottom line is intense. It can leave managers isolated and stressed, tax them beyond their abilities, tempt them to cut corners. You are on your own. If things go wrong, head office is not to blame. Forget Barings. That was only money. Remember the Herald of Free Enterprise.

Much of British business is, as a result, seriously undermanaged compared with big companies on the Continent or in Japan. In the days when many industries were manacled by union power, managers would complain, justly, that they spent half their time dealing with internal labour matters. That left them only half to manage their businesses, boost sales, develop new products, new markets and better ways to make things. If only we could devote all our time to managing, they said, how much better industry would perform.

In most such industries, union power has been blown away. What has happened? Costs have, indeed, been cut dramatically. But instead of devoting twice as much time, energy and thought to managing, businesses have fired half their managers. The line is as thinly stretched as ever. Anyone without a profit-centre, any middle-aged manager not likely to get to the top, is liable to have been scythed away. Even Royal Dutch/Shell, epitome of the monolithically competent multinational, is about to mow down layers of managers to cut costs. Let's hope they do not regret it.

Last week accountants Kingston Smith published a fascinating study of 600 owner-managed businesses, *How Companies Succeeded in the Recession*, by Professor Roger Hussey of Bristol Business School. Among its many insights three were particularly apposite. The businesses that survived best had experienced managers. They relied least on cost-cutting. And on average, those with non-executive directors maintained higher profit margins.

In such smaller firms, these non-executives are not the worthy watchdogs of the Cadbury code. Typically, they are experienced professional or business people whose expertise and advice is on tap and, if truth be told, on the cheap. They provide the back-up and support of unthreatening equals that any manager needs.

Managers of subsidiaries, the sharp end of big business, are being deprived of just this support while their parent plc boards are being stuffed with non-executives. Only a dynamic managing director and a finance director are required. And you can save even more money if you put the accountant or administrator in charge (or even the youthful derivatives trader). Accountancy is a wonderful qualification for business. Many of our best managers are accountants. But being a good finance director does not make you a good manager.

In some modern groups, many fallible, isolated managers are really yesterday's bureaucrats, yes-men devoted to keeping the bottom line on budget. Even compliance officers, or their non-financial equivalents, may be seen as no-men, or no-women, trying to keep their noses clean, rather than team members and advisers sharing responsibility.

In such a culture, the awkward but vital "what-if" questions are all too often not asked. Until the crisis comes. Crisis management, ah, that's real management, just like the old days of industrial conflict.

BUSINESS LETTERS

UK merger control and issues of public interest

From Mr Roger Finbow and Mr Nigel Parr

Sir, We are concerned that comments made in Pennington (March 1) under "No monopoly in Monopoly" may have misled some readers.

It is a misconception that "the benchmark for any MMC inquiry is a merger that grabs more than a quarter of any market". The relevance of the so-called market share test contained in the Fair Trading Act is that a merger which results in control by the merged concern of 25 per cent or more of the relevant market qualifies for investigation: that is, the Secretary of State may refer it to the MMC if he considers it raises sufficient public interest issues. Thus, many mergers which produce market shares well in excess of 50 per cent are cleared without reference each year, whilst it is not particularly unusual for references to the MMC to be made in circumstances where the resultant market share is less than 25 per cent. Look at the beer industry for example.

Secondly, your writer is wrong in implying that the Secretary of State has, in the past, considered merger references on competition grounds alone (the article actually refers — presumably mistakenly — to monopolies references). Since the 1984 Tebbit Statement, successive Secretaries of State have made mergers references *primarily* on competition grounds but have always made clear, as the Fair Trading Act itself provides, that other public interest issues may merit a reference from time to time; and a number of non-competition references have indeed been made over the past ten years.

One can only speculate as to the strength of the OFT's conclusion in respect of the competition issues arising on the Hasbro/Waddington merger but, given that board games are essentially discretionary purchases which compete in spending terms with toys, electronic games and the like, we would have been more surprised if a reference *had* been made. Evidently, the OFT and your writer took a narrower view of market definition than we would have thought appropriate.

Sir Bryan Carsberg's comments of last week are interesting, and are a helpful contribution to what is likely to become an increasing debate; but we disagree with him (at least as regards merger control, although we believe he was referring to monopoly and anti-competitive practice inquiries). As we argue in the concluding chapter of our publication on *UK Merger Control*, whilst UK merger control is not perfect, the regime is broadly fair and, at the MMC stage, relatively transparent. Although some disadvantages, notably of timing and the degree of burden imposed on business, arise out of separation of merger vetting and investigation from the enforcement of remedial action, the independence of the MMC frees them from internal conflicts of interest and from any obligation to implement the policies of the government of the day. In that respect, the UK approach constitutes a better compromise than the EC Merger Regulation, the application of which, many would argue, is potentially subject to excessive political influence and pressure, leading to opacity, unnecessary confusion and a lack of accountability.

Yours faithfully,
ROGER FINBOW
NIGEL PARR,
Ashurst Morris Crisp,
Broadwalk House,
5 Appold Street, EC2.

Pentos failed in spite of NBA

From Mr Martin Grindley

Sir, The main argument of opponents to the net book agreement (NBA) has been that it keeps book retailing uncompetitive and protects inefficient booksellers. Does not the collapse of Pentos show this to be nonsense?

Yours faithfully,
MARTIN GRINDLEY,
Browsers Bookshops,
125 High Street,
Brentwood, Essex.

From Mr John Raybould

Sir, So, sadly, the Dillons bookshop chain "now joins other famous retail casualties" through the collapse of Pentos (report, March 2).

When I was a student at University College London in the 1950s, I can remember the late Miss Una Dillon, owner of the eponymous bookstore, telling me her ambition was to buy all the shops surrounding hers as they became available. She would, however, let the delightfully named Pride of Cokaygne coffee shop survive in the middle of the block as the smoky-filled, espresso rendezvous for us impecunious students.

Miss Dillon's friendly bookshop along with the coffee shop disappeared when Dillons was bought by Pentos in 1977. Mr Terry Maher, its accountant founder, then proceeded on what was to become his disastrous national policy of over-expansion, largely at the expense of his suppliers (many of whom eventually put Dillons on their "stop lists").

Perhaps the lesson is that bookselling should really be left to people like Miss Dillon and not to accountants.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN RAYBOULD,
The Old Vicarage,
High Street,
Newport,
Saffron Walden,
Essex.

Tobacco at the Bank

From Mr F. Paul Taylor

Sir, "A chain-smoking Governor named Eddie ..." (Eddie George rhyme, City Diary, March 2). How can we have confidence in the future when our finances are in the hands of one who has neither the wisdom nor the willpower to give up smoking?

Yours faithfully,
F. PAUL TAYLOR,
7 Kingsway,
[illegible]
Cheshire.

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Dealing Far East	107.10	111.90	- 2.30	2.70
Dealing Gilt	72.47	74.71	- 0.35	5.60
Dealing Japan	151.80	160.70	- 0.60	..
AXA EQUITY & LAW UNIT TST MGRS				
01203 553 231				
General Acc	507.80	540.00	- 3.90	3.03
General Inc	447.50	476.10	- 3.50	3.03
UK Growth Acc	142.40	144.30	- 2.30	3.08
UK Growth Inc	234.30	249.30	- 1.70	3.05
Higher Inc Acc	646.40	687.70	- 5.00	4.21
Higher Inc Inc	373.60	397.50	- 2.20	4.21
Gilts/Fxd Int Acc	169.60	194.00	- 0.30	6.03
Gilts/Fxd Int Inc	87.60	91.80	- 0.17	8.03
N/A America	254.10	270.40	- 0.10	.
Far East	311.60	331.60	- 5.70	0.38
Europe	262.10	278.90	- 2.40	0.86
Brit Overall	87.87	72.31	- 0.47	3.38
Brit Fedrnts Acc	98.13	104.40	- 0.60	4.90
Brit Fedrnts Inc	71.98	76.59	- 0.38	4.90
Global Opps	78.69	83.62	- 1.25	0.41
Balanced Acc	91.57	94.87	- 0.37	3.24
Balanced Inc	91.32	93.54	- 0.36	3.24
ABBEY UNIT TST MGRS				
0845 717 373				
High Income				
Gilts & Fixed Int	125.20	132.90	- 0.29	8.08
High Inc Equity	152.80	163.40	+ 0.10	4.82
Worldwide Bond	258.50	274.80	- 2.50	5.53
Capital Growth				
American Growth	284.30	293.20	- 6.70	.85
Asian Pacific	279.40	297.20	- 11.30	..
Assets & Earnings	345.50	368.30	- 3.80	3.07
Commdty & Energy	89.59	95.31	- 3.81	.14
Euro Capital Inc	126.50	135.30	- 1.10	.72
(Accum Units)	135.10	144.40	- 1.20	.71
General	216.10	228.90	- 0.60	2.37
Japan	108.00	116.00	- 1.70	..
Mastertrust	129.80	138.80	- 1.60	1.88
UK Growth Dist	110.20	117.60	+ 0.60	3.06
US Emerging Cos	126.60	135.40	- 3.70	..
Income & Growth	363.30	384.90	- 3.80	3.39
Ethical	83.69	87.76	-	3.17
International	165.70	110.30	- 2.00	1.05
Dividend & Growth	57.08	60.70	+ 0.03	4.63
Global Debt & Sec	68.48	70.52	+ 0.08	2.55
ABERFORTH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0131 220 0733				
UK Small Cos	£16.00	£10 65		.
ASTRUST UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0800 833 388				
Amer Inc & Growth	41.86	43.40	- 1.10	0.71
Cash	50.04	50.04§	+ 0.02	5.85
Emerging Mkts	58.98	63.57	- 1.69	0.09
European	105.30	110.70	- 1.80	..
Financial	911.30	960.60	- 0.10	1.90
Gilts Income #	44.40	47.54§	- 0.01	6.34
Far East Emg Ecn	103.20	109.50	- 2.80	0.57
Fixed Interest #	21.97	23.09§	+ 0.04	8.97
Fund Inc Tst	156.40	164.60	- 1.40	1.02
Japan	158.80	167.40	- 0.20	..
Latin American	41.06	43.09	- 1.89	1.13
Pacific	64.81	68.39	- 3.10	0.38
Property Shares	59.69	62.68	- 0.05	2.18
UK Emerging Cos	59.51	62.47	- 0.07	1.98
UK Growth	41.47	44.00	- 0.21	2.66
Aber World Pact #	67.29	68.42	- 0.01	5.28
Ethical	59.27	62.22	- 0.17	2.83
Aberdeen Gilt Inc #	46.59	48.59§	+ 0.01	7.72
AEGON UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
0131 549 3232				
British Growth	65.37	69.55§	+ 0.01	3.00
British Income	78.82	80.89§	+ 0.02	3.79
Select Portfolio	79.51	84.59§	- 0.77	.
ALLCHURCHES INV MGMT SVS LTD				
01462 305 858				
Acatty Income	70.43	74.73§	+ 0.12	2.61
Income Builder Inc	64.51	68.63	- 0.13	3.03
ALLIED DUNBAR UNIT TSTS PLC				
IFA dlg: 01793 610 366 Client dlg: 01793 514 514				
Balanced Trusts				
Growth & Income	214.10	228.80	- 0.50	3.61
Capital	376.80	402.50	- 0.80	2.65
Balanced	427.50	456.70§	+ 0.05	2.97
Accumulatio	511.65	512.45	+ 4.00	3.26
Income Trusts				
American Income	45.32	48.44§	- 0.39	3.57
High Income	369.00	394.80§	- 4.00	4.30
Equity Income	205.60	219.70	- 0.30	3.79
High Yield	221.70	236.90	- 0.60	3.57
Govt Securities	32.55	34.39§	- 0.03	8.16
International Trusts				
Amer Grwth Sits	138.50	148.00	- 1.20	0.47
European Growth	32.31	34.45	- 0.27	0.01
International	145.50	155.50§	- 0.80	0.21
Japan	185.30	197.30§	+ 0.50	0.01
Pacific	341.90	365.40	- 4.10	0.01
Secs of America	401.30	427.10§	- 2.40	0.04
Worlds Assist Vol	44.08	47.12	- 0.35	0.25
Specialist Trusts				
Asset Value	481.90	515.00§	- 0.80	2.48
Cons & Gilt	40.54	43.01§	- 0.07	5.39
Smaller Cos	157.10	167.50	+ 0.20	1.32
2nd Smaller Cos	149.00	159.20§	+ 0.20	1.53
Recovery	127.30	136.00	+ 0.10	1.93
Mid Mkt & Cnty	132.90	142.00	- 1.70	0.94
Ozone Exempt	322.60	344.80§	- 0.50	1.95
Technology	152.80	163.30	- 0.20	0.01
UK Special Sits	419.70	448.60§	- 0.70	1.93
B & C E UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
01293 535 911				
Capital Out Pens	94.86	98.55	.	3.04
Foundtn Pens Pens	58.57	61.89		
BSI-THORNHILL UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0171 990 0033				
Capital	65.98	70.19	- 1.03	2.00
International	60.47	64.33	.	.
BAILLIE GIFFORD & CO LTD				
0131 222 4242				
America	256.20	277.10	- 9.20	.
Bond	107.50	113.20	- 1.50	7.36
Brit Smlr Cos	91.76	97.64	+ 0.60	1.92
Conv & Gen #	61.55	65.48	+ 0.01	5.70
Europe	208.60	222.10	- 1.10	0.64
Euro Smlr Cos	94.93	101.20	+ 0.20	0.62
Income Smlr	323.50	344.10§	- 1.00	4.61
Japan	261.20	298.30	- 1.40	.
Latin America	83.15	88.54	- 1.69	.
Pacific	92.56	98.49	- 3.61	1.56
Uk Smlr Cos	49.86	52.98	+ 0.15	1.44
Japan Fd	629.40	648.20§	- 3.70	.
Mngd Fd	167.70	172.00	- 1.60	3.28
BANK OF IRELAND FUND MGRS LTD				
01271 466 8573				
Brit & Quasr	268.50	280.60	.	1.32
Capital Gwth	105.40	111.00	.	2.42
Worldw Opps	169.30	178.30	.	0.45
BARCLAYS UNICORN LTD				
0181 594 5544				
Balanced Trusts				
Blat Inv Fd Inc	321.00	334.40	- 0.90	3.26
Exempt Blat Inc	88.87	88.78§	- 0.33	7.98
Exempt	88.84	73.54	- 0.04	4.54
Financial	69.04	73.84	- 0.34	3.04
500	418.60	438.20§	+ 0.30	2.75
General	255.40	273.10	- 0.30	2.95
Property	343.20	364.30	.	6.57
Trusting	167.86	178.50	- 0.10	2.86
Income Trusts				
Cash Inc	100.70	100.70	.	5.63
Extra Income	110.90	116.70	+ 0.10	6.38
Gilt & Fxd Int	56.42	57.26§	- 0.12	8.0
Income	463.30	516.90§	.	4.43
Income Builder	57.56	61.59§	- 0.05	5.30
Income Trust	57.11	60.70	- 0.07	4.07
Growth Trusts - UK				
Capital	109.00	116.30§	- 0.30	2.69
Leisure	112.60	120.40	- 0.10	1.71
Recovery	383.30	408.90	- 0.40	3.06
Smlr Cos Inc	41.01	43.96	+ 0.09	2.15
Special Sits	261.70	278.90	.	1.78
Growth Trusts - Overseas				
America	117.20	124.40	- 3.40	0.90
Asset Acc	214.40	228.10	- 0.50	2.46
Asset Inc	131.90	140.30	- 5.80	2.46
Euro Gwth Inc	138.40	147.90	- 1.80	1.05
(Accum Units)	148.20	158.30	- 1.90	1.05
Japan & Gen Inc	124.10	163.20§	- 1.80	.
(Accum Units)	155.50	165.10	- 1.80	.
Japan Spec Sits	71.14	75.76	- 0.66	.
Latin Tech Inc	72.96	77.54	- 1.13	0.06
Worldwide	153.70	161.10	- 2.50	1.04
BARING FD MGRS LTD (DEALING SUSPENDED)				
0171 214 1004				
American Growth	95.15	90.35	- 2.03	.
Asian Smlr Cos	121.10	129.70	- 3.30	.
Convertibles	92.21	98.62	+ 0.05	5.70
Eastern	237.20	256.00	- 8.60	0.19
Equity Income	91.34	97.65§	- 0.44	4.50
European Growth	260.40	297.40	- 3.90	0.80
Europe	307.20	329.20	- 4.40	0.21
German Growth	72.47	76.80	- 0.66	0.50
Global Bond	69.67	63.88	- 0.16	6.20
Global Growth	113.20	120.90	- 2.00	.
Japan Growth	182.40	194.30	- 1.40	.
Japan Smaller	154.40	164.10	- 0.60	.
Korea Trust	70.05	76.53	- 0.24	.
Portfolio	116.50	124.90§	- 4.30	1.58
(Accum Units)	214.50	229.90	- 7.80	1.80
UK Emerging	76.25	82.07	- 0.29	0.98
UK Growth Cos	76.13	83.23	+ 0.02	1.80
Select Managers	69.06	73.95	- 0.62	1.10
BLACKSTONE FRANKS UT MGRS LTD				
0171 250 3300				
Intl Gwth Port Inc	69.67	73.48§	.	.
Special Opport Inc	49.33	52.48§		
BRITANNIA LIFE UNIT MGRS LTD				
0141 223 6020				
Balanced Growth	98.42	104.15	- 0.04	1.97
(Accum Units)	110.64	117.08	- 0.05	1.97
Smaller Cos	94.52	100.02	- 0.28	1.26
Higher Yield #	41.82	44.25	- 0.03	4.76
American Gth Inc	66.71	70.59§	- 2.56	.
European Growth	126.54	133.91§	- 1.43	..
(Accum Units)	129.03	136.54	- 1.46	..
Global Bond Inc #	35.89	36.63	- 0.29	6.28
Magd Pfolio Inc	38.58	40.81	- 0.53	1.94
(Accum Units)	39.13	41.39	- 0.54	1.54
Int Spec Opps	102.76	108.74	- 2.20	1.26
Pacific Gwth	110.59	117.03	- 2.42	.
Formerly LAS				
Uk Conrsal #	68.43	72.47	+ 0.04	3.73
(Accum Units) #	71.10	75.23	+ 0.45	3.73
Japan Inc	54.94	58.14§	+ 0.15	1.44
Gilt & Fixed Int #	92.78	94.68§	- 0.22	7.99
BUMRAGE UNIT TST MGMT LTD				
0171 480 7216				
Share Dated Gilt	61.99	62.80§	- 0.08	9.52
CIS UNIT MANAGERS LTD				
0161 837 5060				
Envsion	146.80	155.20	+ 0.10	1.81
Gth Growth	154.60	165.80§	+ 0.20	2.52
Uk Income	125.60	132.70	+ 0.20	4.64
CANADA LIFE UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
01707 651 122				
Can Gen Dist	171.20	181.50§	- 1.80	2.18
-do- Income Dist	102.90	109.00	- 0.60	4.98
(Accum Units)	310.00	328.10	- 1.80	4.59
Gld & Fxd Int	39.55	40.87	- 0.07	8.66
CAPEL-CURE MYERS UT MGMT LTD				
0181 208 5466 Dlg 0181 208 5885 Dlg 0181 208 5362				
American & Gen	141.60	150.70	- 3.80	.
European Inc	72.67	76.85	- 0.99	0.69
Smaller Cos (4-1)	73.08	73.66§	+ 0.28	2.53
Growth	380.50	415.50§	- 0.00	3.72
Income & Growth	373.50	397.40§	- 4.90	4.31
(Accum Units)	502.90	537.09	- 7.00	4.31
Japan & Gen	84.04	87.97	- 0.34	.
Master Portfolio	694.08	697.72§	- 83.00	2.27
(Accum Units)	£112.24	£116.59	- £1.08	2.27
Special Sits	88.29	94.98§	- 0.15	2.87
High Yield	£12.19	£12.87	- 7.08	4.76
CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
0171 606 0786				
Cazenove Portfolio	77.85	83.04	- 0.26	2.64
American Portfolio	85.76	91.34	- 1.02	1.27
European Portfolio	90.03	95.99	- 2.95	0.83
Japanese Portfolio	57.36	61.57§	- 0.21	.
Pacific Portfolio	122.17	131.37	- 3.81	0.89
Uk Inc & Growth	71.44	76.66	- 0.06	3.48
Equity & Bond	53.61	54.25	+ 0.14	7.05

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
CENT BD OF FIN OF CHURCH OF ENG				
0777 3868 1915				
Inv Fund	627.75	633.45	.	4.88
Fxd Int Sec	147.85	148.20	.	9.76
CENTURY UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
0171 332 5000				
UK General Tst	58.75	62.50	- 0.51	2.18
COIF-CHARITIES OFFICIAL INV FD				
0171 388 1815				
Inc	616.57	626.52	.	4.95
Accum	626.37	636.48	.	.
Fixed Int Inc	120.20	120.42	.	9.63
Fixed Int Acc	187.69	187.95	.	.
CHARTERED ASSET MGMT LTD				
0171 637 7957				
Inst Growth	107.49	117.67	..	..
UK Income	99.87	108.85	..	5.59
CITY FINANCIAL UT MGRS LTD				
0171 407 5566				
Berkeley Inst	75.76	80.58	.	1.90
Berk Bio-Tech	25.17	29.63	.	.
Comm Special Tst	144.60	151.80	.	0.74
City Fin Assets	63.11	67.14	+ 0.38	1.34
City Fin America	83.87	88.29	.	.
City Fin Inst	70.57	74.39	.	8.98
City Fin Japan	141.73	149.15	.	.
Fidel Hse Cap	259.69	269.98	+ 2.35	1.75
Fidel Hse Inc	182.90	190.86	+ 1.61	4.24
Stockley Wrld Gth	115.77	123.18§	.	0.10
Fidelity Cap Gth	127.0	135.11	.	.
Fidelity Int	139.66	147.94	.	.
City Fin Pfio Inc	51.69	54.35	.	4.45
CITY OF LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0171 711 0771 Admin: 01277 227 300				
Emerging Markets	48.44	51.39	- 1.59	..
CLERICAL MEDICAL UT MGRS LTD				
0800 378 989				
American Gwth	53.98	57.73	- 1.07	.
Atlas Managd Gwth	33.36	35.70	- 0.46	0.49
Dragon Growth	59.19	63.30	- 2.28	0.56
Equity High Inc	76.53	81.41§	- 0.50	4.34
(Accum Units)	103.70	110.32	- 0.68	4.34
European Gwth	47.77	51.09	- 0.51	1.02
Income & Growth	25.35	27.76	- 0.31	.
General Equity	77.58	82.92	- 0.61	3.02
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc	28.54	25.16	- 0.05	8.24
Japan Growth	45.03	48.23	- 0.15	.
Pathfinder Gwth	46.84	49.93	- 0.78	2.91
Pref Sm Cos Inc	28.36	30.17	- 0.04	1.45
(Accum Units)	29.47	31.35	- 0.03	1.45
Reinvestment Inc #	24.99	26.53	- 0.11	5.27
Special Sits	35.14	37.39	- 0.17	2.15
UK & Overseas	43.90	46.70	- 0.55	1.47
COLONIAL MUTUAL UT MGRS LTD				
01634 856 000				
Capital	63.15	66.95§	- 0.37	2.37
Income	57.32	60.76§	- 0.529	4.34
COMMERCIAL UNION FINANCIAL MGMT INTL LTD				
0181 686 8818				
PRESTIGE PORTFOLIO (PPT FUNDS)				
Income Funds				
Equity Inc	147.00	156.41	- 0.36	6.11
Fixed & Convertible	36.52	40.96	- 0.01	7.50
Monthly Inc Plus	46.22	48.17	- 0.09	9.11
Preference Share	45.02	47.89	- 0.03	7.71
Balanced Funds				
High Yield	113.06	120.28	- 0.48	7.75
Managed Fund	63.19	67.22	- 0.04	3.14
UK Growth Funds				
Smaller Cos	35.71	37.99	+ 0.04	1.78
(Accum Units)	40.05	43.47	+ 0.05	1.78
Tst & General	72.49	77.11	- 1.16	2.87
(Accum Units)	90.71	96.50	- 1.47	2.87
UK Growth	131.30	139.66	- 1.99	2.44
International Growth Funds				
Europe Growth	178.81	188.10	- 1.56	0.26
Far Eastern Gwth	113.97	121.24	- 2.60	.
Global Bond	74.81	79.50	- 1.00	8.37
Japan Growth	102.78	114.66	- 0.11	.
North Amer Gwth	157.01	167.03	- 3.90	.
Dividend Growth	76.76	81.62	- 2.47	.
Worldwide Growth	58.55	63.36	- 0.99	0.08
OTHER CU TRUSTS (NON PPT FUNDS)				
Deposit Fund	93.11	93.11	+ 0.04	5.67
Homeowner Fund	72.77	76.69§	- 0.67	7.56
Quilter Fund	116.67	124.33§	- 0.95	2.60
CONFEDERATION FUNDS MGMT LTD				
01438 744 840				
Growth Inc	53.65	57.08§	- 0.27	3.40
(Accum Units)	59.10	61.80	- 0.31	3.40
High Income	31.63	33.64	- 0.11	4.90
Japan	32.43	34.50	- 0.10	.
Smaller Cos Inc	28.25	30.05	+ 0.01	2.80
Smaller Cos	29.93	31.83	+ 0.02	2.80
North American	30.43	32.37	- 0.08	0.70
European	34.84	37.05	- 0.46	0.70
CONSISTENT UNIT TST MGMT CO LTD				
0171 407 5566				
Consistent UT	28.71	30.63§	.	3.60
COOKE (HENRY) INV FUNDS LTD				
(0800) 525 358				
Growth	131.60	140.00	+ 1.10	2.21
Income	83.34	87.39§	- 1.20	5.30
European	57.24	60.90	- 0.63	1.00
Recovery	143.70	152.90	- 0.70	2.39
CO-OP PENSION FDS UT MGRS LTD				
0171 263 9494				
Equity Dist	763.60	776.90	.	3.86
CREDIT SUISSE INV FDS (UK) LTD				
01277 690 379				
Fellowship Tst	69.00	73.40	+ 0.14	1.34
Income #	276.90	282.90	- 5.60	5.65
(Accum Units) #	530.20	567.20	- 13.50	5.65
Smaller Cos	147.90	157.30	- 0.20	0.52
(Accum Units)	180.70	192.20	+ 0.20	0.52
Inv Portfolio	73.28	77.95	- 0.16	1.54
High Inc Port #	63.71	67.77	- 0.36	5.12
DIMENSIONAL TST MGMT LTD				
0171 410 0177				
Euro Small Cos	£15.62	£15.38	.	.
Japan Small Cos	£11.20	£11.42	.	.
UK Small Cos	£16.63	£17.37	.	.
US Small Cos	£15.58	£16.08	.	.
DISCRETIONARY UNIT FUND MGRS				
0171 377 8818				
Disc Inc	189.40	199.40	.	3.15
DUNEDIN UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0131 315 2500				
European Gwth	268.40	273.40	- 3.70	1.02
New Asia	188.20	199.30	- 5.40	0.17
Japan Growth	108.60	114.80	.	.
Jap Smlr Co	439.50	467.20	- 0.70	.
Nth Amer	251.70	267.80	- 5.30	0.69
Global Asia Pac Inc	105.50	111.80	- 3.30	0.48
UK Inc & Grth	185.90	208.40	- 1.40	5.16
EAGLE STAR UNIT MGRS LTD				
01242 577 565				
UK Balanced Inc	129.70	138.00	- 0.10	1.94
UK High Inc Inc	138.10	148.00	.	4.88
(Accum Units)	179.20	189.60	.	4.85
UK Pref & F I Inc	58.00	58.44	- 0.10	5.27
Envnmntl Opps	78.05	84.00	+ 0.88	1.11
UK Smlr Cos #	47.16	49.59	.	.
EDINBURGH UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0345 090 529				
American	114.60	121.30	- 2.60	1.44
Convertibles #	19.07	20.26§	- 0.10	6.91
Equity Income #	115.50	122.70§	- 1.30	4.35
Eastbond	42.45	45.09	- 0.35	0.44
Financial	48.29	42.81	- 0.38	1.75
Growth & Inc #	215.60	229.10§	- 1.60	3.36
High Dist #	142.80	151.70	- 1.10	4.84
International	345.90	367.60	- 4.50	0.14
Jap Cap Inc	45.50	91.27	- 1.32	3.01
Latin American	22.62	24.03	- 2.17	.
Pacific	69.91	73.96	- 2.21	.
Preference Share	20.79	22.09	- 0.07	7.47
Tokyo	198.30	210.70	- 0.40	.
UK Smaller Cos	208.10	221.19	+ 0.20	1.24
ELY PLACE UNIT MGRS LTD				
0171 242 0242				
Elcan Trust	197.60	210.76	- 3.98	1.82
ENDURANCE FUND MGMT LTD				
0171 373 7251				
Endeavour Fd	184.30	195.10	..	1.06
EQUITABLE UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
01296 431 480				
European	75.17	79.13	- 0.30	1.74
Ethical Tst	39.82	41.92	- 0.22	1.48
Far Eastern	267.79	281.88	- 1.97	2.19
High Income	121.62	128.23	- 0.19	5.15
Intl Growth	109.60	111.19§	- 2.19	1.43
North American	102.97	108.39	- 1.21	1.49
Pacific	108.24	113.94	- 0.33	3.35
Smaller Cos	63.65	66.37	+ 0.05	2.97
Special Sits	81.61	85.90	+ 0.03	2.53
Tst of the Fifties	167.27	176.70§	- 0.77	1.72
EVERMORE FUND MGMT LTD				
0171 407 5566				
Smaller Cos Inc	186.13	193.89	+ 0.45	1.51
Smaller Cos Acc	325.70	339.27	+ 0.80	1.51
Recovery	47.66	49.62	+ 0.09	1.45
Recovery Acc	47.57	49.56	+ 0.08	1.45
EXETER FUND MGMT LTD				
01392 412 144				
Balanced	107.64	114.51	+ 0.01	6.07
Capital Growth	74.99	80.32	+ 0.01	.
Fd of Inv Tsts	40.88	42.60	- 0.23	0.66
High Income #	48.12	43.00	.	10.70
Warrant	47.66	51.80§	- 0.26	.
Zero Preference	36.65	38.89	+ 0.02	.
FAMILY INVESTMENT MGMT LTD				
Callflow: Private Clients: 0800 414 161				
Cash Fund	100.00	100.00	.	5.80
Cash Fund				
Fixed Fund				
Gilt & Fxd Int	26.48	26.59	- 0.07	7.65
Int Bond	27.03	28.06	- 0.30	5.49
Income Funds				
High Income	22.83	24.02§	- 0.01	5.32
Income Plus	100.90	107.30§	- 0.70	4.35
Amer Eq Inc	43.56	46.13	- 1.17	2.19
European Income	39.54	42.05§	- 0.84	1.74
Far East Inc	37.27	39.91§	- 0.40	0.90
Global Convertible	21.22	22.54	- 0.10	3.71
UK Div Grs	32.55	23.89§	- 0.12	2.05
Equity Funds				
ASSAM	54.11	57.72	- 2.30	.
American	225.30	238.60	- 4.50	.
Amer Spec Sits	107.50	114.70	- 2.20	.
Japan Smaller Cos	34.58	36.89§	- 0.06	.
Europeans	157.00	167.40	- 1.90	.
European Opps	58.92	62.85	- 0.56	.
Global Priv	22.68	24.24	- 0.25	0.99
UK Growth	84.27	89.94	- 0.53	.
Growth & Inc	1,000.00	1,066.99	- 0.00	2.38
Int PEP	34.13	36.39	- 0.07	.
Japan Spec Sits	82.82	88.17§	- 0.19	.
Japan	172.90	184.60	- 0.40	.
Managed Int	251.40	267.80§	- 2.60	.
Moneybuilder	48.71	51.80	- 0.09	.
Recovery	44.29	47.10	+ 0.33	.
South E Asia	131.50	140.20	- 1.40	.
Special Sits	405.80	508.00	+ 6.70	.
Spectating Funds				
Cash Account Units	108.43	108.43	+ 0.04	5.90
FLEMING PRIVATE FUND MGMT LTD				
0171 814 2700				
Balanced #	136.00	139.70§	.	2.00
Inc Profile #	79.13	80.89§	- 0.07	4.15
Cap Profile	130.09	139.40	- 1.0	1.35
General Opps	114.56	118.30	.	3.60
Growth Inc	27.71	29.50	- 0.26	1.90
Private Portfolio	378.20	386.69§	.	1.36
FOREIGN & COLONIAL UNIT MGT				
Enq 0171 454 1434 Dlg 01277 291 010				
Hyrst Foreign & Colonial				
European	165.50	171.50	- 1.20	0.54
Emrg Asian	149.90	159.30	- 3.70	1.50
High Income	70.30	71.56§	- 0.89	10.44
Dstrbs Income	84.20	90.05	- 1.83	3.59
Uk Growth	99.93	105.60	- 0.50	1.89
UK Income	98.82	105.50	- 0.50	3.97
US Smaller Cos	260.60	300.10	- 5.60	0.13

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
FOSTER & BRAITHWAITE FUND MANAGEMENT LTD				
01481 727 888				
High Inc Equity	44.66	46.86	- 0.20	3.46
-do- Inc Fxd Inc	69.39	72.86§	- 0.07	4.04
Intl Growth	65.31	68.66	.	1.34
Investment Trust	83.09	87.37§	- 0.29	.
Managed Trust	147.77	158.04	+ 0.03	1.03
FRANKLINGTON UNIT MGMT LTD				
0171 374 4100				
American Growth	53.10	56.85§	.	.
(Accum Units)	53.10	56.85§	.	.
Amer Smlr Cos	456.90	488.70	.	.
(Accum Units)	466.80	499.38	.	.
Capital Tst	282.70	297.70	.	1.61
(Accum Units)	455.20	478.95	.	1.61
Comm Smlr Cos	57.48	61.42	.	0.60
(Accum Units)	60.44	64.59	.	0.60
Commodities	118.70	126.90	.	5.87
(Accum Units)	238.70	254.90	.	5.87
Emerging Markets	60.76	64.91	.	.
(Accum Units)	60.81	64.96	.	.
European	112.80	119.76	.	0.14
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Losses across the board

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place ten business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

BANKS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
523	380½	Abbey Nat	439	-1	5.2	9.2
314	233	Allied Irish†	281	-1	5.4	10.8
278½	171	Aus New Z	213	-9	5.3	7.9
3300	2462½	Bank America†	2837½	-37½	...	...
247	172½	Bank Scotland	198	-1½	3.4	11.2
640	487	Barclays	606	-1	3.4	14.8
319	246	Bk of Ireland	302	-1	4.6	8.7
2912½	2262½	Chicorp	2812½	-137½	...	...
285½	203	Close Bros	235	+4	4.3	10.5
£138½	£121½	Commerzbk	£147¼	+162½	5.9	...
1298½	993¾	Dai Ichi Kan Y	1115¼	+3½	0.5	...
£344½	£270½	Deutsche Bk	£310½	-8½	2.3	...
1315½	684½	Espirito Santo	694½	-6½	11.6	...
90	57	First Nat Fin†	70½	+1	2.7	45.0
1549½	1152½	Fuji Bank Y	1328	+5	0.4	...
473	209	Hambros	212	+1	8.8	13.0
1113	588	HSBC	626	-18	5.6	7.6
1133	578	HSBC HK	625	-18	5.6	7.6
449	388	Joseph (L)	388	...	5.7	11.3
693	424	Kleinwort Bent	575	+3	4.7	11.2
668	519	Lloyds†	587	+2	5.7	9.5
820½	472	Nat Aust Bk	479	-28	7.0	8.4
622	421	Nat West†	482	-6	5.6	7.8
3300	2100	Ottoman Bank	2375	...	6.1	5.7
79	53	Rea Bros	58	-2	2.0	16.2
528	373½	Ryl Bk Scot	412½	-½	4.2	11.8
1574	1050	Schroders	1420	-25	1.6	13.0
1458	1043	Schroders NV	1290	-18	1.8	11.8
114	75	Singer & Fried	83	+1	4.7	10.7
359½	223	Stand Chart	256	-4	3.1	8.8
291	197	TSB†	232	-2½	4.9	9.9
1812	569	Wadkins SB	681	+10	4.9	12.7
£105	8612½	Wells Fargo	9781½	-206½	2.9	...
260	194	Westpac	219½	-5½	2.5	...
380	203	Wintrust†	215	...	6.2	14.4

BREWERIES

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
1025	145	Ascot Hldgs	148	...	...	...
619	485	Bass	504	-7	5.2	12.5
293	239	Boddington	247	+1	4.8	12.4
198	168	Borinead Brw	171	...	3.7	14.3
181	142	Eldridge P 'A'	159	-1	3.2	19.3
66	46½	Fosters Brewing	52	-4	5.2	13.7
493	335	Fullr Sm 'A'	343	...	2.9	14.2
511	399	Greenalls Grp	405	-1	4.9	13.3
584	452	Greene King	472	...	3.5	12.8
287	239	Hardy Hansn†	263	...	4.5	12.8
170	135	Hawthree	156	...	3.6	...
3773	3125	Holt J	3380	...	1.8	18.8
248	195	Mansfield	232	...	2.5	14.2
314	256	Mrstns Thmp	269	...	2.8	13.1
545	435	Morland	445	...	3.0	13.4
10½	6½	Paramount†	6½	-½	4.6	15.9
329	209	Regent Inns†	329	...	2.2	18.8
1665½	1000	SA Breweries	1481¼	...	1.9	24.1
591	477	Scot & New	486	-2	4.4	14.2
306	212	Vaux Group	215	...	5.7	12.1
491	324½	Wetherspoon JD	475	...	1.7	26.1
617	494	Whitbread	528	-3	4.5	14.4
589	483	Wolvrhmptn D	490	...	3.5	12.7
208	148	Yates Bros	201	...	2.4	15.8
535	450	Young 'A'	460	...	4.1	19.5

DISTRIBUTORS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
127	95	ABI Leis	96	...	5.3	11.0
317	248	Acal	294	...	3.0	15.9
595	253	Adams & Harvey	545	...	3.6	6.8
31	19	Alexanders†	19	...	6.6	...
175	88	Appleyard	93	...	7.8	18.4
6	3½	Ass Br Eng	4½	...	1.5	30.3
578	495	BSS Group	530	...	4.3	18.7
25½	17	Bearing Power	21	...	6.0	10.8
405	245	Bletchley Mtr	258	...	5.2	10.3
40	28	Bogod 'A'	28	...	3.1	11.8
370	288	Brammer	350	...	4.6	19.4
31	12	Budgens Gp	14	...	1.8	72.8
99	78	Brit Fittings	94	...	3.0	...
71	38	Brown & Tawse	36	...	...	...
57	35	Burndene	39	...	8.2	...
495	245	Caffyns	250	...	5.7	41.1
59	12	Castell Plc	15½	+½	8.9	8.6
130	71	Central Mtr†	71	...	4.8	47.3
51	32½	Cook (DC)	35	...	4.1	10.7
342½	197½	Cowie†	245½	+4	4.6	...
132½	127	Dag Motors	133	...	6.1	15.3
683	446	Dennans El	588	...	1.4	14.5
828	414½	Diploma	420	...	4.0	14.7
589	443	Electrocomponents	486	...	2.6	20.4
175	133	Electron House†	156	...	2.8	13.1
283	225	Ellis & Everard†	246	...	4.0	16.3
234	183	Eurodollar	194	+1	5.5	15.2
173	85	European Mtr	95	...	6.0	10.3
399½	369	Evans Halshaw	369	...	4.8	11.6
658	490½	Farnell Elect	547	+2	1.8	22.4
78	50	File Indexer	53	-1	6.5	7.8
34	15	Gardiner†	20½	...	4.8	...
46	16	Glencheadon	16	...	...	17.7
90	60	Gowrings	71	...	3.5	21.5
78	59	Hallen Hldgs	63	+1	...	49.2
172	122	Harris (Philip)	168	...	5.1	14.7
342½	254	Heyligs	284	+15	3.8	...
191	88	Holders Tech	89	...	8.4	9.6
138	98	ISA Intl	98	...	2.2	12.4
608	288	Inchcape	300	-1	6.2	10.8
68	35	Jacks (Wm)	58	...	...	13.4
184	142	Kwik-Fit	144	...	3.5	18.5
573	277	Lex Service	296	+2	6.1	15.2
282	162	Lookers	172	...	5.6	9.2
20	14	Molnyx Gp	14	...	2.2	...
9	3½	Middlesex ©	7	...	...	...
440	279	Norholm	388	...	0.7	17.0
100	47	Northumber	89	-1	1.8	37.8
175	152	PCT	152	...	6.1	14.7
310	225	Pendragon	226	-1	4.1	14.9
236	126	Perry Gp	127½	...	6.9	7.0
218	128	Quicks Group	135	...	4.9	14.2
166	87	REA	163	...	4.8	33.7
5½	2½	Reeco	2½	...	...	...
24	3½	Ross Gp	4	...	6.2	...
42	32½	SEP Indit	39½	...	3.3	...
44	31	TLS Range	40	...	3.1	16.1
265	215	Time Products	227	...	4.8	15.3
221	151	Vardy (Reg)	178	+3	3.7	13.1
335	240	Wholesale Fitgs†	243	...	6.0	21.7
30½	13½	Wills Gp	14½	...	4.3	8.1
74½	39½	Wilshaw	68	+½	1.2	22.9
69	40	Wyko†	63	...	2.1	21.4
96	61	Young (H)	75	...	6.0	14.0

DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
202	148	Adwest	156	+1	6.0	15.9
380	198½	Antofagasta	253	-10	1.8	20.5
62	43½	Armour	43½	...	5.3	9.0
997	773½	Broken Hill	809	-42	2.4	17.9
401	273	BTR	310½	-4	5.0	16.4
570	372	BAT	420½	-11½	6.2	11.0
270½	120½	Benclare Ind▼	222	+1	0.3	58.7
91	48	Bibby (J)	81	...	4.6	15.0
57½	44	Brierley Inv	44½	...	9.2	2.6
836	636½	Charter	751	+4	3.8	22.0
285	212	Cookson	216	...	3.8	19.5
302	217½	Hanson†	232½	-1	8.5	14.5
220	136	Hanlon Cstle	140	-1	8.0	15.8
365½	200½	Hutch Whamp	241½	-8	2.2	18.0
710	409½	Jardine Math	521	-8½	2.7	12.4
36	27½	Jourdan (T)	29	...	4.3	28.8
175½	124½	Lonrho†	143	-2	3.9	26.2
44	16	Porter Chadbrn	41	...	4.7	...
685½	452	Powell Duffryn	455	+1	6.9	12.8
164	118½	Ropner	124	...	7.6	14.1
489	337	Rothmans	453	+3	5.3	22.0
34½	9½	Sallire	15	...	...	5.7
163½	105	Sime Darby	140	-3	3.1	17.8
287	164	Staveley	165	-2	6.4	50.8
220	148	Suter	158	+5	7.8	...
268	220	TT Group	234	...	2.4	...
288	202	Tomkins†	231	-2	4.2	14.8
124	60½	Trafalgar Ht	63	...	2.0	...
446	245	Unitrie	285	...	6.3	...
324	246½	Wassell	252	-2	1.8	21.6
13½	9½	Widney†	9½	-½	2.6	14.8
414½	309	Williams Hldg	326	-8	5.0	20.1

ELECTRICITY

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
884½	610½	East Midlands†	750	+1	4.6	31.5
866	566	Eastern Grp†	698	-2	4.4	15.3
785	534	London Elect	730	-2	4.2	11.2
866	635	Manweb†	816	+1	4.2	9.8
845½	547	Midlands Elect	741	-2	4.2	11.4
530	404½	National Power	459½	...	4.2	12.5
1138	589	Northern Elec	1055	-1	3.9	10.9
417	329	Nthn Ireland†	353	+9	4.2	9.6
867	587	Norweb	798	-3	3.8	9.6
602	449	PowerGen	491	-1	3.8	10.6
477	387	Hydro-Elect†	318	-3	5.1	10.7
486	319	Scottish Power†	330	-2	4.9	10.4
490	288	Seeboard	429	-5	3.6	11.7
912	581	Sth Wales	811	-2	4.5	11.0
889	551	Sth Western†	812	...	3.9	10.8
837	540	Southern Elect	725	-12	4.2	10.5
909	604½	Yorkshire Elec	844	-6	4.1	14.5

ENGINEERING, VEHICLES

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
66	31	AAF Inds	38	+1	...	...
160	108	Airflow Stream	157	...	3.2	15.4
639	440	Avon Rubber	446	...	4.6	16.1
236	173	BBA	196	+4	3.1	...
86½	49½	BSG	53½	...	7.5	33.4
18½	8½	Benson Group	9	...	4.9	12.2
306	180	Bostrom	298	...	2.5	17.0
28½	17	Boustead†	24	...	5.2	...
22	18	Caverdale	11½	...	1.6	11.7
357	275	ERF	356	...	1.4	...
400	296	First Tech	399	...	1.7	23.0
660	510½	GKN	575	+3	4.5	33.6
4387½	2337½	General Mtrs	2462½	-12½	2.0	...
1239	918½	Honda Motor	973½	-6	0.5	...
432½	304	Laird	314	+5	4.3	15.2
360	233	Lucas	360	...	...	...
239	158	Lucas	187	+2	...	...
64	50	Mayflower	59	+2½	3.0	24.0
124	61	Minstates	68	+1	...	9.5
178	149	Swinse	165	...	3.6	18.4
261	140	T & N	161	...	8.4	14.0
333	263	Trinity Hldgs	325	...	2.5	23.5

HOUSEHOLD GOODS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
312	201	Airsprung	233	...	3.0	13.1
193	115	BLP Group	125	...	1.0	34.3
38	26	Boston Brown	31	...	...	...
167	80	Crowd Pic 'A'	80	-2	8.9	17.9
285	163	Creighton N	163	...	5.9	11.5
165	133	Derby Extend	145	...	2.7	15.8
168	113	Gestell	135	...	3.9	...
14	4	Lenniean	4	...	6.2	...
231	160	Maybom	160	...	4.6	10.8
335	245	Ontame Ind	253	...	5.3	11.5
430	230	Osborne & Little	396	...	2.4	12.0
625	420	Paterson Zoch	433	...	4.1	12.2
595	380	Paterson Zch 'A'	383	...	4.5	11.1
714½	528	Reckitt Colm	635	-3	3.6	16.1
291	211	Relyon	280	+23	2.3	52.9
378	183	Silentnight	183	-3	5.5	11.5
46	27½	Stoddard	29½	...	6.8	11.0
330	195	Tomkinsons	195	...	7.4	...
160	125	Victoria Carpet	125	...	4.5	7.1
110½	94½	Waller Greetbk	105	...	4.3	19.3
63	44	Wiltord Weigand	57	-2	...	44.4
159	155	Wood (Arthur)	155	...	2.4	31.2

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
380	280	3i	346	...	2.7	...
106½	63	Abtrust Emerg	65	-1½	0.4	...
102	75	Abtrust High Inc	76	...	9.3	...
290	182	Abtrust N Dawn	195	-1	0.8	...
2058	1678	Alliance	1754	-8	2.4	...
293	239	American Trst	247	-4	2.7	...
479	392	Angl & Overs	394	-2	2.4	...
196	118	Baillie Gifford Sh	125	...	...	...

EQUITY — OTHER SECTIONS

MINING

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
115	65	Altx Corp	90	...	4.1	...
4525	1762½	Ang Am Coal	3900	...	2.3	21.4
3796½	2509½	Ang Am	3049½	-49½	2.3	28.9
7331¼	4593½	Ang Am Gold	5225	-159½	5.0	14.3
36	22	Anglo Pac Res	23½	...	...	...
1512½	1195½	Ashanti	1308½	+3½	1.2	16.2

OIL & GAS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
46½	24½	Aran Energy	46	...	...	27.9
53	35	Arcon Intl	41	+1	...	...
74½	45	Aus Oil & Gas	45	-½	...	...
68	43	Aviva Pet	50	...	...	...
253	197	Br Borneo	253	+2	3.5	11.9
358	253	British Gas	292½	+2½	6.4	17.2
437½	340	Br Petroleum†	386½	-3	3.3	14.1
4	1½	Bula Resources	2½	...	...	...
919	783	Burmah Castrol	850	+2	4.0	16.9
88	56	Cairn Energy	62	...	...	45.2
375	253	Calor Gp	253	...	6.2	12.2
51	33	Clyde Pet	38	...	1.2	...
30	7½	Coplex Res	8	+½	...	...
2½	1½	Dragon Oil	1¾	...	...	...
27½	17	Edin Oil & Gs	20½	-½	...	22.1
466	370	Enterprise	380	-2	5.1	...
27	8	Fairhaven Intl	8	...	15.2	3.3
303	240	Flogas	240	...	6.7	9.9
8½	4½	Fortune	5½	...	...	33.5
77	54	Goal Pet	69	...	2.6	22.9
47	31	Gt Western Res	40	...	...	...
177	129	Hardy O & G	156	...	0.8	20.8
55	40	Kelt Energy	54	...	3.1	21.7
169	110½	Lasmo	151	-1	0.8	...
73	38	Lasmo Units	40	...	24.5	...
75	55	Monument	62½	...	...	66.8
7½	3½	New London	5½	-½	...	...
2584½	1912½	Norsk Hydro	2200	-81¼	1.9	...
9½	3½	Oceonics	4½	...	...	...
50	36	Oil Search	38	-2	...	...
50½	17½	Petroz	29½	-2	...	...
184	140	Pict Pet	184	...	...	...
32½	21	Premier	23½	...	...	12.8
158	43	Presidio	43	...	15.5	...
111	69	Pittencrieff Re	69	-2	...	...
345	129	Ramco Egy	304	-3	8.2	...
463	325	Ranger	368	-2	5.3	...
7700	6681¼	Royal Dtch Fl	6990½	-185½	4.9	...
4084½	3221½	Schlumberger	3471½	-75	2.1	...
68	40	Scott Pickford	40	-4	2.8	7.7
98	59	Seafield	90	+1	...	...
758	651	Shell	692	-2	5.8	...
187	116	Sunrise Eng Sv	#116	...	...	7.5
4297½	3312½	Total	3359½	-68½	2.7	18.6
19	8½	Villiers Exp	9½	-½	...	...
245	178½	Woodside	221	-11	1.6	...
110	28	XCL	55	+4	...	...

OTHER FINANCIAL

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
165	75	BWD	79	...	8.9	...
131	96	Baltic Plc	130	...	1.9	8.2
185	58	Beny Bch Hld	58	...	11.0	8.7
215	148	Bieloc Inv	152	-1	...	...

MEDIA

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
365	270	Abbott Mead	339	...	2.2	30.7
355	198	Adscene†	287	+2	3.8	18.0
33	17½	Aegis Gp	23½	...	...	...
11½	2½	Allied Radio	2½	...	...	...
26	13	BBB Design	13	...	...	35.9
235	155	Barbour Index†	190	...	5.7	17.0
13½	5	Bristale	5½	+½	...	...
345	320	Black (A&C)	320	...	5.3	11.6
402	178	Blenheim Gp	192	-1	6.7	7.2

PHARMACEUTICALS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
615	311½	Brit Biotech	494	-1	...	...
488	163	Cantab Pharms	165	...	...	...
271	191	Celltech	254	...	...	...
151	98	Chiroscience	124	...	...	...
47	34	Cortecs	35	+1	...	...
157	103	Fisons	150	-1½	2.2	...
725	520	Glaxo†	648	-11	5.4	15.6
185	95½	Hampton Hlg	117½	...	5.9	21.6
187	128	Medeva	177	-2	2.0	14.2
3	1	Premier Health	1	...	...	...
330	227	Quality Care†	235	...	2.4	11.6
355	242	Scotia	344	...	...	...
83	43	Shield Diag	43	-1	...	...
515	357½	SmithKline†	496	-7	3.3	...
494	322	Smithkline Unit	474	-7	3.4	...
1047	498	Wellcome	1036	-5	2.8	21.9
934	672	Zeneca	864	-5	4.2	19.1

PRINTING & PAPER

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
184	122	AG Holdings	122	...	5.8	11.5
444	336	API	412	...	2.8	19.6
316	219	Arjo Wiggins	245	-2½	3.3	36.9
205	145	Aspen Comm	184	...	3.8	18.8
472	347	Bemrose	361	...	4.3	12.9
524	387	Bowater	401	-1	4.1	15.1
2112½	1378½	Bowater Inc	1934½	-43½	...	...
297	242	Bowthorpe Intl	279	-3	1.8	17.0
515	436	Br Polythene	506	+13	3.5	...
176	25	Br Thornton	28	...	9.6	2.3
180½	112	Britton Grp	144	...	2.2	21.2
186	139	Bunzl	166	+1	3.1	19.5
198	129	Capital Inds	149	...	4.0	11.0
2449½	1890½	Carnaud Mtl	2106¼	+12½	2.3	15.9
439	254	Cropper (James)	254	...	1.7	13.4
1054	825	De La Rue	1032	+1	2.5	18.7
114	59	Delyn Group	59	...	3.5	10.7
137	96	Dolphin Pack	98	...	5.9	12.3

PROPERTY

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
130	82	ASted Lon	83	...	5.8	10.6
276	253	Argent	256	...	...	...
83	63	Artesian Ests	70	+1	...	...
144	103	Axis	105	+1	2.7	18.6
382½	225	Bellon	230	...	5.3	16.7
250	199	Brilgy	199	...	4.3	17.3

SPIRITS, WINES & CIDERS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
683	481	Allied Domecq	507	-5	5.6	13.7
459	358	Bulmer (HP)	399	...	3.5	21.6
140	105	Burn Stewart	113	...	5.5	24.8
508	352	Grand Mett	375	-6	4.7	16.9
542	408½	Guinness	414½	-5½	3.9	13.7
457	353	Highland Dist	392	-2	2.3	17.9
222	127	Macallan-Glen	204	...	0.7	53.5
710	365	Macdo Mtn 'A'	640	-10	1.9	27.5
614	515	Matthew Clark†	545	-1	4.3	25.0
250	61	Merydon W	83	...	3.8	...
190	142	Taunton Cider	142	...	5.8	11.0

SUPPORT SERVICES

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
187	73	ACI Group	98	+1	6.7	10.3
743	583	ADT	675	-20	...	...
46	34	Alphameric	38	...	...	29.0
140	43	Auto Sec	64	...	...	8.3
162	98	BET Ord	104½	+½	4.1	14.9
195	115	BNB Res	158	-1	4.8	18.4
255	175	BPP	220	...	5.1	15.7
186	130	BSM	153	...	5.3	13.0

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
436	353½	BT	377½	+1½	5.7	15.5
...	350½	Cable Wireless	370	...	...	...
...	...	Vodafone	187½	-2½	2.0	24.3

TEXTILES & APPAREL

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
139	75	Airsport	75	-1	5.3	4.0
230	116	Alandra W	121	...	6.0	12.9
617	456	Allied Textl	458	-1	3.7	14.0
103	74	Atkins	74	...	13.7	23.5

TRANSPORT

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
83	58	Air London	64	...	6.8	12.2
777½	619½	All Nippon Air	631½	-9	0.3	...
313½	228	Assoc Br Ports	266	...	2.6	16.5
541½	427	BAA	431	-7	2.7	16.5
141	103½	Badgerline	141	...	3.6	...
496½	344	Br Airways	383	-5	3.7	9.5
79	27	Central Tom R	31	-1	...	...
108	75	Clarkson (H)	102	...	2.1	25.6
179	140	Dart	148	-2	3.3	14.3
582½	195	Eurotunnel Uts	258	-8	...	...
67	50	Fisher (James)	50	...	...	...
588	405	Forth Ports	455	...	2.1	21.3
263	156	GRT Bus	262	...	1.8	20.3
199	113	Go-Ahead	180	...	2.7	20.3
222	125	Goode Durrant	214	+1	3.7	16.8
155	124	Intl Steam	125	...	4.4	9.5
71	39	Jacobs (J)	54	...	3.8	...
111	70	Lon O'Seas Frts	77	...	5.9	1.9
534	358	Mersey Docks†	376	...	3.5	...
291	145	NFC†	172	+1	5.2	17.6
347	245	Natl Express	318	...	3.0	18.4
349	244	Ocean Group	270	-1	6.6	13.6
91	58	Ocean Wilsons	73	-2	5.5	10.6
748	553	P & O Dfd	560	-7	6.8	17.3
209	153	P & O 5.5%	170	...	4.0	...
102	84	Seacon†	89	...	3.4	46.0
298	158	Stagecoach	237	-1	3.2	23.5
131	83	TNT	83	-7	...	...
915	598	Tibbet & Britn	598	...	3.1	15.3
327	184	TDG	184	-1	6.5	12.4
136	98	Upland	118	...	2.5	...
169	75	Utd Carriers	80	...	2.2	...

RETAILERS, FOOD

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
78	50½	ASDA Group†	68½	...	3.3	15.7
315	222½	Argyll	276	-4	5.3	11.8
585	413	Balls Bros	464	...	1.9	16.7
43	23	Budgens†	34	+1½	3.7	20.8
17	11½	Cullens	11½	...	...	...
137	67½	Dairy Farm Intl	79½	+1½	4.4	11.4
394	344	Farepak†	349	...	2.5	18.1
60	37	Fitzwilton	40	...	11.3	...
110	87	Fyffes†	110	...	1.7	...
371	165	Gleed	169	...	5.8	...
1080	653	Greggs	1046	...	2.3	19.7
211	133	Iceland Group	151	...	3.2	9.4
656	523	Kwik Save	591	-1	4.5	9.6
18	9	Merchant Retail	12	...	...	...
149	98	Morrison (W)	139	-1	0.9	16.2
232	128	Nurdin Peack	165	...	5.0	9.1
145	89½	Park Foods†	113	...	2.8	18.1
5½	1½	Regina Hlth	2½	-½	...	...
480	342	Sainsbury J	410	-2	3.3	14.5
258	200½	Tesco	250½	-½	4.0	12.5
188	143	Thorntons	145	...	4.2	11.9
422	279	Watson& Philip	361	...	5.3	13.5

RETAILERS, GENERAL

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
80	24	Akeon	24	-1	...	...
248	199	Alldes	207	+1	4.0	11.7
410	307	Argos Plc	345	+1	3.0	18.2
102	54½	Ashley (Laura)	72	...	0.2	...
357	105	Asprey	106	...	7.1	8.7
246	176	Austin Reed	213½	-1	3.2	10.7
168	126	Beattie (J) 'A'	127	...	6.1	16.6
150	110	Bentalls	115	...	2.2	39.8
165	36	Betterware	42	...	8.3	4.5
48	29	Blacks Lets	31	...	9.1	...
264	167	Body Shop	182	-1	1.5	16.0
681	458½	Boots	472½	-4½	4.1	15.1
12½	1½	Brown & Jacksn	1½	...	...	...
253	205	Brown (N)	230	...	2.3	20.5
74½	51	Burton	70	...	3.6	34.5
245	122	Carpetright	122	-2	4.1	17.4
304	230	Carpenight	262	...	3.9	19.6
246	144	Chrisies Int	144	-2	1.7	25.4
520	388	Church	480	...	3.4	24.4
171	80	Clinton Cards	80	...	7.4	11.8
170	81	Cthy Casuals	99	...	5.5	28.1
903	720	Courts Furnact	784	...	1.0	39.9
210	155	Crews Exp	185	...	6.8	7.7
353	238	DFS Furniture	245	...	3.7	18.4
287	170	Dixons Grp	207½	+2	4.0	22.0
580	530	Ellys (Wimbdn)	580	...	3.8	27.2

WATER

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
607	442	Anglian	481	-1	6.1	10.9
365	293	Mid Kent Hdgs	347	+4	4.3	11.7
671	454	North West	538	+4	5.5	7.7
890	508	Northumbrian	870	+128	3.7	9.4
645	457	Severn Trent†	527	+7	5.6	8.8
2065	1525	South Staffs	2055	+17	3.3	12.4
675	459	South West	495	...	6.6	7.3
692	465	Southern†	565	+15	5.3	8.2
611	434½	Thames	487½	+3½	6.0	7.3
744	546	Welsh†	637	+28	5.2	7.0
379½	261	Wessex†	284	+6	5.3	7.4
630	458	Yorkshire	527	+8	5.6	7.7

WHEN IT COMES TO AVIATION EXPERIENCE, WE ARE UP THERE WITH YOU

YOUR INTERNATIONAL INSURANCE BROKING PARTNER C E HEATH

133 HOUNDSDITCH LONDON EC3A 7AH TELEPHONE: 0171 234 4000

BRITISH FUNDS

SHORTS (under 5 years)

High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Gross red yld
103⅝	97⅝	Exc 3% 1990-95	99⅝	...	3.02	6.78
107⅝	101⅞	Exch 10¼% 1995	101⅞	...	10.10	6.59
113⅝	103⅞	Treas 12¾% 1995	103⅞	...	12.26	6.85
117⅝	105⅝	Treas 14% 1996	105⅝	...	13.22	7.01
121⅝	108⅛	Treas 15¼% 1996	108⅛	...	14.02	7.26
117⅝	106⅞	Exch 13¼% 1996	106⅞	...	12.43	7.39
112⅝	103⅞	Conv 10% 1996	103⅞	...	9.66	7.73
100⅝	95⅝	Treas 7% 1997	97⅝	...	7.15	8.04
121⅝	109⅝	Treas 13¼% 1997	109⅝	...	12.14	7.91
114⅝	104⅝	Exch 10½% 1997	104⅝	...	10.04	7.95
110⅝	100⅝	Treas 8¾% 1997	101⅛	...	8.64	8.14
131⅝	115⅝	Exch 15% 1997	115⅝	...	12.96	8.26
114⅝	102⅝	Exch 9¾% 1998	103⅞	...	9.42	8.36
106⅝	95⅝	Treas 7¼% 1998	97⅛ †	-⅛	7.47	8.39
102	93⅝	Treas 6¾% 1995-98	95⅝	-⅛	7.06	8.40
131⅝	114⅝	Treas 14% 1998-01	115⅝	-⅛	12.16	8.53
140⅝	120⅝	Treas 15½% 1998	121⅛ †	-⅛	12.78	8.45
129⅝	109⅝	Exch 12% 1998	110⅝	-⅛	10.84	8.56
118⅝	100⅝	Treas 9½% 1999	103⅝	-⅛	9.21	8.52
128⅝	111⅝	Exch 12¼% 1999	112⅝ xd	-⅛	10.90	8.59
121⅝	105⅝	Treas 10½% 1999	106⅝	-⅛	9.84	8.56
101⅝	88⅝	Treas 6% 1999	90⅝	-⅛	6.60	8.53
121⅝	104⅝	Conv 10¼% 1999	106⅝	-⅛	9.66	8.64

MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)

High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Gross red yld
116⅝	99⅝	Conv 9% 2000	101⅝	-⅛	8.85	8.58
98⅝	95	Treas 8% 2000	97⅝	-⅛	8.20	8.54
136⅝	116⅝	Treas 13% 2000	118⅝	-⅛	11.01	8.71
122⅝	103⅝	Treas 10% 2001	105⅝	-⅛	9.44	8.72
105⅝	89⅝	Treas 7% 2001	91⅝	-⅛	7.63	8.65
123⅝	102⅝	Treas 9¾% 2002	105⅝	-⅛	9.27	8.79
113⅝	92⅝	Treas 8% 2003	95⅝	-⅛	8.35	8.73
127⅝	104⅝	Treas 10% 2003	107⅝ †	-⅛	9.34	8.81
129⅝	109⅝	Treas 11½% 2001-04	112⅝ †	-⅛	10.26	8.87
86⅝	69⅝	Fund 3½% 1999-04	74⅝	-⅛	4.71	7.40
125⅝	101⅝	Conv 9½% 2004	104⅝	-⅛	9.08	8.76
105⅝	84⅝	Treas 6¾% 2004	87⅝	-⅛	7.70	8.68

High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Gross red yld
107⅝	97	Treas 8½% 2005	99	-⅛	8.58	8.64
125⅝	102⅝	Conv 9½% 2005	105⅝	-⅛	9.04	8.74
147⅝	118⅝	Treas 12½% 2003-05	120⅝	-⅛	10.33	8.98
112⅝	90⅝	Treas 7¾% 2006	93⅝ xd	-⅛	8.30	8.67
111⅝	91⅝	Treas 8% 2002-06	95⅝ †	-⅛	8.42	8.70
136⅝	112⅝	Treas 11¾% 2003-07	115⅝	-⅛	10.19	9.00
119⅝	95⅝	Treas 8½% 2007	98⅝	-⅛	8.60	8.65
151⅝	124⅝	Treas 13½% 2004-08	127⅝ †	-⅛	10.58	8.99
124⅝	98⅝	Treas 9% 2008	102⅝	-⅛	8.75	8.64
119⅝	91⅝	Treas 8% 2009	95⅝ †	-⅛	8.42	8.63

LONGS (over 15 years)

High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Gross red yld
98⅝	77⅝	Treas 6¼% 2010	80⅝	-⅛	7.76	8.52
126⅝	100⅝	Conv 9% 2011	103⅝	-⅛	8.70	8.61
127⅝	100⅝	Treas 9% 2012	103⅝	-⅛	8.69	8.59
99⅝	71⅝	Treas 5½% 2008-12	74⅝ †	...	7.41	8.38
117⅝	92	Treas 8% 2013	95 †	...	8.42	8.54
114⅝	89⅝	Treas 7¾% 2012-15	92⅝	-⅛	8.36	8.54
128⅝	99⅝	Treas 8¾% 2017	102⅝	-⅛	8.55	8.51
159⅝	126⅝	Exch 12% 2013-17	129⅝	-⅛	9.27	8.76

UNDATED

High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Gross red yld
54⅝	39⅝	War Ln 3½%	41⅝	-⅛	8.45	...
37⅝	27⅝	Treas 2½%	29⅝ †	-⅛	8.58	...

INDEX-LINKED

High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Gross red yld
204⅝	197⅝	Treas IL 2% 1996	204⅝ xd	-⅛	2.08	3.65
113⅝	106⅝	Treas IL 4⅝% 1998	107⅝	-⅛	2.82	3.71
176⅝	163⅝	Treas IL 2½% 2001	167⅝ †	-⅛	3.45	3.88
173⅝	159⅝	Treas IL 2½% 2003	163⅝	-⅛	3.54	3.88
118⅝	107⅝	Treas IL 4⅜% 2004	108⅝	-⅛	3.57	3.90
184⅝	165⅝	Treas IL 2% 2006	169⅝	-⅛	3.63	3.88
168⅝	149⅝	Treas IL 2½% 2009	153⅝	-⅛	3.68	3.90
175⅝	154⅝	Treas IL 2½% 2011	158⅝	-⅛	3.72	3.91
146⅝	126⅝	Treas IL 2½% 2013	130⅝	-⅛	3.73	3.91
157⅝	134⅝	Treas IL 2½% 2016	138⅝	-⅛	3.76	3.92
152⅝	128⅝	Treas IL 2½% 2020	132⅝	-⅛	3.78	3.92
125⅝	105⅝	Treas IL 2½% 2024	108⅝	-⅛	3.78	3.91
128⅝	105⅝	Treas IL 4⅛% 2030	108⅝	-⅛	3.80	3.94

Source: Finstat

© USM; # Price at suspension; † Ex dividend; ‡ Ex scrip; ▲ Ex rights issue; ▼ Ex all; § Ex capital distribution; * Figures or report awaited; ... No significant data. Companies in bold are constituents of the FTSE 100 index.

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LAW

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Frances Gibb reports on Birmingham's legal revolution, and, right, on a solicitor-businesswoman's struggle

Boom time in the Brummie Bar

Birmingham is going through a quiet revolution. For decades, lawyers have had their sights trained on London. Now they are starting to think "homegrown". Clients who always headed for the capital for big commercial deals now use local law firms. And solicitors are briefing local counsel, who are rapidly developing the expertise to compete with London chambers.

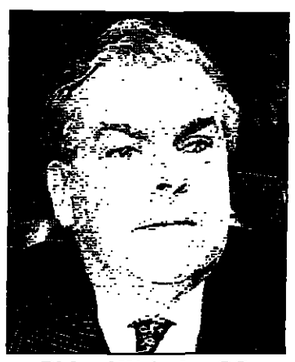
Crucially, too, Birmingham is getting its own courts. First came Official Referees (the judges who deal with big construction industry disputes). Then in September 1993, the Birmingham Mercantile Court opened. Just before Christmas came the announcement that Birmingham (with Bristol and Cardiff) would be on a circuit for a High Court judge, Mr Justice Chadwick, going out to take Chancery work. There is now talk that for the first time, judicial review cases will be handled outside London — and Birmingham is the likely place.

It is the hub of the Midlands and Oxford circuit. Since the 1960s, when there were 65 barristers in the city, there has been massive growth. Now the Bar is 340-strong, in 13 sets including 5 Fountain Court, which, with more than 60 barristers, is the biggest in the country. There is also a substantial Bar in Nottingham, as well as sets in Leicester, Northampton, Oxford, Stoke and Wolverhampton — a total of 1,000. Two-thirds of these are in chambers on circuit and the rest, though part of the circuit, are in London sets.

Traditionally, the bread-and-butter work of the circuit Bar is crime and common law. The Criminal Bar still thrives, but most sets now do other work, too. Richard Wakerley, QC, leader of the circuit, says: "Birmingham was slow to respond to the needs of solicitors by building up specialist areas of work, but that is now happening." For example, his set, 4 Fountain Court, has seen a rapid growth in civil and commercial work. It has specialists in banking, asset finance, mortgages, personal-injury work and consumer credit.

The Bar, once scattered about the city, came together in 1965 at Fountain Court in Steelhouse Lane, close to the courts. Now it is outgrowing the building and three sets have moved into other parts of the city. There are also new courts: county courts in the Priory, along with the Mercantile Court, and the Queen Elizabeth II crown court building.

Despite the prospects for civil and commercial work, there are concerns. Chief of these at the Birmingham Bar, as elsewhere, is the competition in the criminal courts. There is strong support for the new system of legal aid fees, known as graduated fees, now being negotiated by the Bar and the Lord Chancellor's Department.



Richard Wakerley, QC: leader of the circuit

This, Mr Wakerley says, would improve much-needed cash flow by speeding up legal aid payments.

Recruitment policy in recent years has been geared to the growth of work. Competition is still tough for pupillages, but one big difference from London is that most pupils, once taken on, tend to be retained as tenants. Mr Wakerley said: "When the Bar was smaller, you couldn't take on pupils, select those you wanted and leave the others high and dry. Other chambers did not have the resources to mop them up."

More than 40 pupils have been taken on annually at the Birmingham Bar in the past three years, a growth rate of 6 to 7 per cent a year. A set such as Fountain Court will pick one or two pupils from 100 or more applications. But there is opposition to any kind of clearing-house system, as is now being looked at for the London Bar.

Rhona Campbell, 23, is one of the new recruits to the Birmingham Bar. Just six months after she became a tenant, her earnings this year are estimated to be £35,000. She chose the regional Bar deliberately because of "the problems in London" and 4 Fountain Court offered her a place. She does a mixed workload of crime, civil and commercial but her practice is taking off, particularly in civil law. She is already handling county court trials (such as personal injury claims of up to £10,000).

Her earnings are unusually high; the average at her level would be nearer £25,000 a year, especially for those doing crime. The life, she says, is good. "To some extent," she says, "you're always going to be the person sent to Hereford at 4.30 on a Friday. But compared with my London counterparts, there seems to be lots of good-quality work. I'm in court every day."

The work involves travelling further afield than in London. The Bar in the city covers Wolverhampton and the whole Black Country, as well as Stoke, Warwick and Coventry, while the eastern side — Lincoln, Northampton and Peterborough — is roughly covered by the circuit's chambers in London. But, she says: "The travelling is probably easier."

She has no plans to head for the capital. "I am not aiming to be a specialist of the kind that would require me to be in London."

The days are also gone, Mr Wakerley says, when it was "off to London" once you had taken silk. "I hope the idea that not all work has to go to London will grow," he adds. "I'm feeling very positive. There have always been solicitors who want to use London counsel, but the object of a local Bar is to provide a service for the professional [solicitors] and the lay client. There is an increasing demand for that specialist work to be done in Birmingham, and the Bar needs to meet that demand."



NEWSTEAM

Rifat Mushtaq: "I had been qualified for five years, and it had always been my vision to run my own practice"

Tough fight for survival

Rifat Mushtaq's office is as far from the sumptuous marble and chrome settings of City of London solicitors as you could find. In the heart of Birmingham (five minutes from New Street station), her premises are squashed next to the local Labour Party. Inside, the cheaply carpeted rooms are divided by flimsy partitions and sparsely furnished. That she is there at all is a mark of her tenacity in the face of a series of obstacles that would have put many another firm under.

Just 18 months ago, Ms Mushtaq, 37, decide to set up on her own. "I had been qualified for five years," she says, "and it had always been my vision to run my own practice." Her daughter, 18 months, had started at full-time nursery. Then she spotted the centrally positioned premises.

She received a £2,000 enterprise grant from the council, but the rest of the backing came from savings and family. "No banks would lend to me, despite my submitting a detailed corporate plan," she says. "So for the first year I ran without an overdraft facility."

She now has seven staff (four fee-earners), and a mixed practice (legal aid and private) with a specialist service in VAT appeals work, a growing area.

Choice of work has been crucial. As well as the VAT, she deliberately chose criminal legal aid because the payments are more regular than with civil legal aid. Conveyancing, too, the firm handles, but it cannot be relied on.

There was also, then, the problem of attracting the right staff at the right salaries. Ms Mushtaq was lucky enough to secure two experienced practitioners, one in crime, the other in housing. But she says: "At the end of the month, you have to meet that wages bill. And for the first few months you get no return from the fee-earners."

Just as the firm was getting on its feet, disaster struck. Mushtaq & Co fell foul of a Legal Aid Board investigation of Birmingham firms suspected of legal aid "green form" (advice) abuse, and in June, without warning, the board told her the firm's account was being frozen and that no more payments would be made. She recalls: "It happened just like that. It was a terrible blow — but we weren't the only ones. It could have put us under."

Visits from the board and scrutiny of files followed. At the time, there was concern about firms canvassing for legal aid clients. "It turned out that some green forms had been put through people's doors. I now make sure I see every green form myself."

Eight weeks later, the suspension was lifted. "During that time," she says, "I needed up to £5,000 a month to meet wages, drawing nothing myself."

Then, two days before Christmas, came a call to say the premises were on fire. Several thousand pounds' worth of cleaning and redecorating had been spent when she took on the rent; now much needs redoing to repair the estimated £25,000 damage. A man has been charged with arson.

But she intends to battle on. She also hopes to make the Labour Party shortlist for Edgbaston or Bradford and she plans to expand: the Law Society's indemnity insurance weighs heavily against small firms and she can cut her premium if turnover reaches £500,000 a year. "At one stage, I wondered whether it was worth it. But I won't give up. I've put too much money in — and there's a hard core of work getting bigger all the time."

Edward Fennell sees a lot of growth in England's second city

Beyond the city boundaries

As manufacturing spearheads the export-based mini-boom, it is only right that Birmingham, heart of the engineering industry, should be this year's favourite city for legal development. Garrett & Co., the hotshot protégé of the accountants Arthur Andersen, has announced it will open offices in Birmingham in the summer. Meanwhile, Dibb Lupton Broomhead, the Yorkshire-based national firm, is quickly building up its Birmingham team, cherry-picking from local rivals and bringing in expertise from London.

But the biggest symbol of Birmingham's growing strength was the announcement in the new year that American Airlines is launching a daily service from Chicago. At a dinner hosted last week by the Birmingham law firm Wragge & Co, which had been instrumental in setting up the deal, the great and the good of the city gathered to welcome the top executives from American.

Traditionally, there have been four main law firms in the West Midlands — Wragge's, Eversheds, Pinsent & Co. and Edge & Ellison. Other leading legal centres may have had difficulties, but relations between these firms have always been cordial — some would say to the point of cosiness. Will that generosity of spirit be extended to Dibb Lupton Broomhead, in Birmingham for just over a year, and to Garret?

John Winkworth Smith, the local managing partner of Dibbs, has gone to the city after spending 30 years in Sheffield. He said: "I've had a friendly reception but have been viewed with a certain degree of suspicion."

These suspicions may be justified. Dibbs, as elsewhere in the country, is intent on growth. With its hard-nosed business approach, it believes it can attract high-achieving young partners from other firms who are tired of Brummie parochialism. The truth is, however, that Birmingham's top four firms have all got strong national and international practices.

Digby Jones, the senior partner-elect at Edge & Ellison, says: "I'm considering opening offices in four other cities. The time has come for us to develop national coverage, but we shall do so only where we can find a perfect fit with local firms." Edge & Ellison is intent on turning the tables on Dibbs by playing the Leeds firm at its own game.

Mr Jones shares with John Crabtree of Wragges and Julian Tonks of Pinsents a deep Brummie allegiance. "More than half my fellow partners were born, brought up and educated within five miles of this office," says Mr Jones. "In addition to wanting the firm to succeed, I am equally keen that Birmingham should do well."

The top gossip in Birmingham last week, however, was of a possible merger between Pinsents and the Leeds firm Simpson Curtis. The siting of the headquarters of such a merged firm would require the judgment of a Solomon.

A model court

THE Lord Chancellor, Lord Mackay of Clashfern; the Lord Chief Justice; the Master of the Rolls and the Attorney-General were among the top legal names who went to last week's Guildhall reception to commemorate the centenary of the Commercial Court. Mr Justice Potter, currently its chairman, said that like his predecessors he was determined to maintain its reputation for "user-friendly" justice.

The court had always sought to adjust procedures to keep pace with the demands of commercial litigation. Or, as Christopher Clarke, QC, said, it was created to combine judicial expertise with efficient procedures "unburdened by the dead weight of legal formulism, archaic practices or a lack of grip on commercial reality".

The proof of its success is that Lord Woolf is now looking towards the court as a model for some of his proposed forthcoming reforms for the civil courts generally.

Under-esteemed

MR Justice Wall, a High Court judge in the Family Division, attacked the "low esteem" in which family judges and their work are held compared with other High Court divisions when speaking last week to the Council for Family Proceedings AGM.

The work of family High Court judges was as taxing and broad as any other, yet it was not "perceived to have the importance or status which crime or other civil litigation is deemed to have".

Country cousins

AN agricultural merger: the partners in the agricultural estates team at the London solicitors Fladgate Fielder this week join Wilsons in Salisbury. Peter Robin FitzGerald and Peter Desmond Philip FitzGerald, the two Fladgates partners, are cousins and both farmers' sons.

● *THE reception for barristers at Gray's Inn arbitration room next week being hosted to forge student contacts with chambers ahead of the scramble for places is being held by City University students, not City of London Polytechnic, as reported last week.*

Spare a penny . . .

A survey by recruitment consultants Quarry Dougall of London firms with more than 25 partners found that only a fifth give paid paternity leave and 14 per cent do not operate a pension scheme.

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- demonstrates care and concern for your career; and
- provides significant opportunities to work overseas.

We welcome applications from candidates qualified in the UK or abroad at the 2-4 year pqe level who have an ambition to join in our future. Fluency in a foreign language would be most valuable.

Please call Jonathon Hill on 0171 832 7325 or write to him at 65 Fleet Street, London EC4Y 1HS.

FRESHFIELDS

QD QUARRY DOUGALL

Alternatively, for an initial discussion in complete confidence, please contact Gareth Quarry, Deborah Dalgleish or William Cock of our consultants Quarry Dougall Recruitment, on 0171-405 6062 or write to them at 37-41 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4JH.

TO ADVERTISE
CALL: 0171 481 4481

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

FAX:
0171 782 7899

TAX
GROWTH OPPORTUNITIES

Allen & Overy's corporate tax department makes a major contribution to the firm's practice, dealing with the full range of transactional and advisory work for corporate and financial clients. There is an increasing variety of innovative and technically demanding transactions with a heavy emphasis on constructive and creative tax input. We are committed to the development of our corporate tax capability and we currently have the following opportunities:

STRUCTURED FINANCE

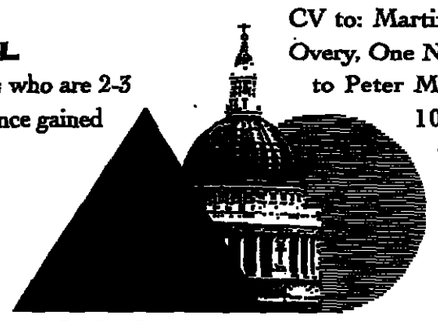
We are looking for high calibre assistants with experience in securitisation, finance leasing or structured finance generally, who are at least 4 years qualified.

GENERAL COMMERCIAL

We are looking for high calibre assistants who are 2-3 years qualified with corporate tax experience gained in a leading firm.

We can offer you the highest quality work, real responsibility and the opportunity to make full use of your potential.

If you would like to be considered, please write with full CV to: Martin Pexton, Director of Personnel, Allen & Overy, One New Change, London EC4M 9QQ, or speak to Peter Morris at Brewer Morris, Ludgate House, 107 Fleet Street, London EC4A 2AB, telephone 0171 936 2040.



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DRUCES & ATTLEE

COMMERCIAL LITIGATOR

City practice requires a further commercial litigator with a strong academic record and between 2-3 years' relevant post qualification experience to deal with all aspects of commercial litigation.

The firm is committed to expanding all areas of the practice and the individual will be expected to contribute to the continuing development of the litigation department.

A competitive salary will be offered according to age and experience.

Apply in writing enclosing a current C.V. to Richard Monkcom (Staff Partner), Druces & Attlee, Salisbury House, London Wall, London EC2M 5PS.

CROWN COURT ADVOCATE EAST MIDLANDS

Our Crown Court department is expanding and we now require a further advocate. Applications are invited from barristers of at least 2 years call, who have a good criminal law background and who are willing to qualify as solicitors.

The firm has an excellent reputation and the work is demanding, but rewarding. There are good career prospects and job security. The working atmosphere is friendly and informal.

The post is ideal for those who wish to have close management *and maximum control of their own work-loads.*

The firm is based in Central Derby, close to the Dales and The Peak District. Working hours are sensible and the quality of life excellent.

For further details please contact Graham Dean or Keith Raynor on *01332 346084*

LAW REVISION COURSES

Contract ● Tort ● Land ● Crime ● Trusts ● Constit & Admin

24 April - 6 May

Further Details From:
Lawprose Tutorial Services
0171 430 2423

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c. £20,000 U.S Law Firm

Paralegal required with previous American Law Firm experience.
Ryder Reid Associates
Tel: 071 264 2166
Fax: 071 264 2140

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY - South - Ambitious Sol. with 3 yrs + PQE sought by commercial firm for thriving department. Call Lisa Witcher Macdonald & Co (Agy). Tel 01747 828357

COMPANY COMMERCIAL - South - Commercial firm seeks assistant Sol. 6 mths - 4 yrs PQE. good quality high profile work available. (Agy). Tel 01747 828357. Fax 01747 828047

UK / INTERNATIONAL

HEAD OF LIT (DESIGNATE) £150,000+
As one of the most successful firms in the North of England, our Client has a strong, well balanced practice and acts for a high proportion of the top local corporate and institutional clients. Significant growth is expected over the next 3-5 years and an additional partner is sought, preferably with a track record as a top City or Provincial firm, with excellent management and leadership skills, to join as head of department designate. Partnership remuneration compares favourably with many of the firm's London competitors. (Ref.3337)

TAX 2+ TO £65,000
Well managed City firm seeks a number of assistants for its expanding Tax Department, which advises blue chip clients on all aspects of corporate tax and VAT. Unusually broad spread of work and a relaxed, open door environment. It is essential to have at least 2 years' relevant experience with a desire to be involved in ongoing marketing initiatives. There is also the capacity to take a six year qualified assistant for a partner designate role. (Ref.4339)

CORPORATE PARTNER - KIEV £EXPAT
Leading international firm seeks to recruit an additional partner/ senior assistant to add critical mass to its busy Kiev office. Work is a general mix of corporate and commercial for large multi-nationals and local subsidiary companies. The firm envisages a minimum three year secondment with a view to returning to the London partnership thereafter. (Ref.4322)

INSURANCE/FRAUD LIT £CITY
Exceptionally strong litigation practice in busy City firm seeks additional litigator to join general group. Immediate involvement in solicitors' negligence, corporate fraud, insolvency and more general insurance disputes. Ideal level is 3-4 years and previous involvement in large scale international litigation is essential. Good opportunity to join high profile group at a firm renowned for lack of fog (am. (Ref.4334)

PROPERTY LIT £COMPETITIVE
High profile medium-sized firm with strong reputation in the litigation sphere seeks additional property litigator. Ideal level is 1-4 years' pqe although newly qualifieds with directly relevant experience in articles will also be considered. Individuals must have strong academic credentials, a lively, outgoing personality and, ideally, a top City firm background. Excellent opportunity with immediate and direct client contact at a well managed firm offering a highly competitive salary and a uniquely informal working atmosphere. (Ref.3873)

SENIOR CONSTRUCTION TO £70,000
Medium-sized London firm seeks to integrate a senior construction specialist as partner or partner designate level. Existing dedicated group with mix of contentious and non-contentious work which already acts on behalf of first rate clients. Individual must have a high profile in this area and have a demonstrable record in attracting top quality work. Genuine gap at partner level and opportunity for involvement in managing the group. High level of remuneration envisaged. (Ref.4342)

INSURANCE TO £55,000
Top ten firm with one of the City's most highly regarded corporate practices seeks non-contentious insurance specialist, 4-6 years qualified. As part of the Corporate Department, the successful candidate will advise a range of clients including life insurance companies, brokers, intermediaries and actuaries on a range of company/commercial insurance issues. Key appointment in specialisation offering excellent long term prospects. (Ref.4338)

EMPLOYMENT MIX TO £48,000
Well established medium-sized City firm with busy Employment Group seeks further assistant to join high profile department. Work comprises interesting mix of contentious and non-contentious with the opportunity for immediate responsibility in a relaxed environment. Ideal level is 3-5 years and demonstrable communication skills are essential. (Ref.4247)

EC/COMPETITION - BRUSSELS £EXCELLENT
Small, informal Brussels office of well regarded medium-sized City firm seeks additional assistant for minimum 2 year position. Candidates must have an excellent academic background and mix of fee earning work will include IP, IT, pharmaceuticals, telecoms and multi media. Ideal level is 1-3 years' pqe. An outgoing, pro-active personality and good interpersonal skills are essential. (Ref.3390)

PROPERTY TO £30-45,000
Leading medium-sized City firm requires an additional assistant to participate in high profile development work within its expanding Property Department. Firm has a pre-eminent reputation in the property field and the ideal candidate will come from a similarly regarded firm. Clients range from developers, investors and retailers to banks and institutions. Outstanding opportunity for 1-4 year qualified lawyer with good academics, enthusiasm and flair. (Ref.3741)

The above represents a small selection of the vacancies presently registered with us. To find out more, in complete confidence, please contact Andrew Russell, Lisa Hicks or Miranda Smyth (all qualified lawyers) on 071-377 0510 (071-733 1815 evening/weekends) or write to us at Zarak Macrae Brenner, Recruitment Consultants, 37 Sun Street, London EC2M 2PY. Confidential fax 071-247 5174. E-mail andrew@zmb.co.uk

ZARAK • MACRAE • BRENNER

ZMB

INTERNATIONAL COUNSEL - LONDON

From £65,000

The Client A financing division of a diverse, US owned, Fortune 50 multinational corporation whose business interests range from primary manufacturing to financial services.

The Job Senior legal adviser supporting the European Managing Director and senior management on international acquisitions, vendor agreements, lease finance, security documentation and a host of other general commercial issues.

The Experience At least 6-8 years' post qualification combining acquisitions, finance (preferably equipment leasing) and transactional work gained at a top rated commercial law firm and possibly in-house.

The Individual A UK or foreign qualified lawyer of partner quality who can demonstrate a genuine ability to provide user-friendly, business orientated, timely and high quality legal advice.

The Benefits An excellent compensation package and long term career opportunities in the UK and internationally with other group companies.

For further information in complete confidence please contact Sally Horrox or Jonathan Macrae on 0171-377 0510 (evenings/weekends 0171-731 4858) or alternatively, write to us at Zarak Macrae Brenner, Recruitment Consultants, 37 Sun Street, London EC2M 2PY. Confidential Fax: 0171-247 5174. E-mail sally@zmb.co.uk

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Reynell
Legal Recruitment Consultants

Reynell Limited, 55 Fetter Lane, London EC4A 1AA
Tel: 0171 353 7007 Fax: 0171 353 7008
A Division of Austin Knight Limited

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY *to c. £50,000*
This medium sized city firm has a varied and interesting portfolio of lending, and developer clients. They require a high calibre commercial property lawyer up to four years' admitted with good client liaison skills. Excellent prospects.

CORPORATE FINANCE *£32-£35,000*
Our client is a major city firm with a strong international profile. They require a solicitor with two years' corporate finance experience gained in a blue-chip environment to strengthen this busy and successful team.

IT/COMMUNICATION *c. £42,000*
Prestigious city practice seeks a three year qualified assistant to work in the fast-moving IT environment. Some relevant experience preferred, but solicitors with a sound commercial background and a high level of commitment to IT will be considered.

LANGUAGE SKILLS *6 months - 5 years*
We are instructed by a number of firms seeking commercial lawyers with a good command of a second language. Exciting opportunities exist both in the U.K. and overseas for German, Russian, Polish and Japanese speakers.

LITIGATION *£50,000 +*
Central London firm with outstanding international commercial litigation practice, requires a litigation assistant up to five years' qualified with experience in arbitration work. There will be considerable opportunities for advocacy.

PARTNER DESIGNATE *£150,000 +*
This high profile Central London firm is seeking a personable solicitor with heavyweight experience in general commercial work - ideally with a media or communications bias - to help develop their growing client portfolio. Immediate partnership is a possibility for the right candidate.

The above list represents a small selection of our current instructions.
For further information, or for a confidential and informal discussion please contact:
Simon Anderson at the above address or by telephone: 0171 353 7007 or confidential fax: 0171 353 7008

CITY University

Lecturers/Senior Lecturers/ Readers in Law
(two posts: ref 890/T)

This expanding Law Department is committed to learning, teaching and research excellence. Two posts are available at lecturer, senior lecturer or reader level. Preference will be given to applicants with an interest in the core areas of the law syllabus and for the senior posts a consistent record of research and publication is essential.

These posts are full-time and offered on continuing contracts. Appointments will be made to one of the following scales according to qualifications and relevant experience. Lecturer (A or B) scales from £16,890 to £27,869; Senior Lecturer or Reader scale from £29,152 to £32,667 including London Allowance.

Teaching Fellows in Law
(two posts: ref 891/T)

The Department also has opportunities for two teaching fellows, to undertake teaching and pastoral care duties. These are full-time fixed-term posts available from September 1995 for 2 years. Salaries will be on the Lecturer (A or B) scales from £16,890 to £27,869 including London Allowance.

Department of Law

Application forms and further particulars for all posts are available from the Deputy Academic Registrar's Office, City University, Northampton Square, London EC1V 0HB. Tel: 0171 477 8030 (24 hr answerphone). Please quote appropriate reference.

Closing date for all posts: 24th March 1995.

We are committed to equal opportunities

MAYER BROWN & PLATT

PARALEGAL

Leading American law firm seeks a paralegal to add to its existing team. Transactional and research experience required. Competative salary and benefits package. Please send C.V. together with covering letter to:

Maureen M. Pocknell
Office Manager
Mayer, Brown & Platt
162 Queen Victoria Street
London EC4V 4DB

Fax 0171 329 4465

LEGAL EXECUTIVE

Personal Injury/ Road Traffic Accidents

Due to expansion specialist Solicitors near Kingston upon Thames now require an experienced and competent Executive to deal with volume Uninsured Loss Recovery Claims arising from Road Traffic Accidents. We are looking for an ambitious, fast thinking person who has good County Court experience, strong negotiating skills and who is able to take over an existing high costs caseload (300 files approx) consisting of a large proportion of Personal Injury claims.

We will offer a competitive salary for the right experience/abilities. Ideally someone who specialises in this area of work, has computer skills and can handle claims from instruction to completion.

Send CV to:- Mrs J Tilley, Coleman & Tilley Solicitors, 177 Hook Road, SURBITON Sry KT6 5AR

WIGG & CO
Law Costs Drafting company based in Tunbridge Wells requires Newly Qualified Litigation Solicitors and experienced Draftspersons to join their expanding team.
0892 525182

LIBEL Niche One Stop Practice, requires solicitor/barrister. Age/qualification less imp than person. Highly intelligent and motivated, creativity but professional. Prepared to draft pleadings and act as advocate. Media exp brief, but ess. David Price & Co. 0171 916 9911.

MATRIMONIAL - S. West - experienced S.E.P. sought by friendly firm existing excellent assets. (Agy). Tel 01747 828337.

SITUATIONS WANTED

NEWLY QUALIFIED female solicitor seeks immediate position. Extensive P.I., property and company experience gained with medium sized firm. Friendly, adaptable + hard working. Ring 071 274 3629

ALL BOX NUMBER REPLIES SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO: BOX No. ——

c/o THE TIMES NEWSPAPERS
P.O. BOX 3553, VIRGINIA ST,
LONDON, E1 9GA

TO ADVERTISE CALL: 0171 481 4481

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

FAX: 0171 782 7899

ADDLESHAW SONS & LATHAM

SOLICITORS

We are the leading law firm in the North West providing a national and international service to a large and varied client base including many major companies. To help us move further ahead of the competition, we want people who can lead the thinking, are one step ahead and totally committed.

We seek highly developed interpersonal skills in particular, the ability to communicate complex legal issues with clarity. Above all, however, we are looking for those with the energy, enthusiasm and experience to help us achieve our mission. If this is you, read on.

COMPANY & CORPORATE FINANCE

3-4 years' PQE with experience in dealing with mergers and acquisitions, Yellow Book and City Code work or 2-3 years' PQE mainstream corporate and Yellow Book work.

EMPLOYMENT LITIGATION

3-4 years' PQE specialising in employment litigation. You will be dealing with both contentious and non-contentious work in a City or prominent regional practice.

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

0-3 years' PQE in general commercial property. Your caseload will involve leases of offices, factories and retail units, termination and renewal of business tenancies, commercial acquisitions and sales.

EC, COMPETITION & COMMERCIAL

2 years' PQE covering general commercial contract drafting and negotiation including distribution, agency and some franchising agreements, conditions of sale (including ROT and exclusion clauses), joint ventures and commercial arrangements. Working knowledge of UK and EC competition rules an advantage.

CORPORATE TAX

Corporate Tax Lawyer with about 6 years' PQE, used to providing effective commercial tax advice regarding all aspects of Corporate Finance and Property transactions. Expertise in VAT and Property is essential.

Whilst we have these specific requirements, we are always keen to talk to you whatever your specialism, if you feel you can make a significant contribution to our practice.

In return what will we give you?

A package of benefits which recognises expertise and individual contribution, a culture which is forward thinking and innovative encouraging development and progression, a professional and friendly working environment which extends to regular social, sporting and cultural activities in modern, well equipped office accommodation.

If you are ready for the challenge and want to work with us, please write with your CV to Graham Kershaw, Personnel & Administration Director.

DENNIS HOUSE, MARSDEN STREET, MANCHESTER M2 1JD.
TELEPHONE: 0161 832 5994. FAX: 0161 832 2250.

BANK OF ENGLAND

ADVISER TO THE GOVERNORS AND HEAD OF LEGAL UNIT

SUBSTANTIAL PACKAGE

The Bank of England seeks to appoint a senior lawyer as Adviser to the Governors and Head of its 11 strong Legal Unit on the retirement of the current incumbent.

This senior role will carry responsibility for:-

- Advising the Governor, Deputy Governor, Executive Director, Board of Banking Supervision and other senior officials on a wide range of legal issues arising in the course of the Bank's supervisory activities;
- Overseeing the Legal Unit's involvement in [illegible] supervisory, surveillance and enforcement roles;
- Advising on legal aspects of policy and [illegible] arising out of the Bank's role;
- Managing the Legal Unit and co[illegible] external advisers;
- Representing the Bank at po[illegible] governmental and regulatory officials.

Ideally older than 45, you will [illegible] finance background probably gained within a major Ci[illegible] commercial reputation to command immediate respec[illegible] outside.

The remuneration and benefits packag[illegible] ous non contributory pension scheme, concessionary loan facilities and medical insurance.

For further information in complete confidence, please contact the Bank's advising consultant, Gareth Quarry on 0171 405 6062 (0171 652 2904 evenings/weekends) or write to him at Quarry Dougall Recruitment, 37-41 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4JH. Confidential fax 0171 831 6394. This assignment is being handled on an exclusive basis by Quarry Dougall.

QD QUARRY DOUGALL

UNITED KINGDOM · HONG KONG · NEW ZEALAND · AUSTRALIA · USA

In House Commercial–North West

Our client is a highly active major public company with an annual turnover approaching £1 billion and a healthy record of profit. They now wish to recruit a heavyweight commercial solicitor, either from practice or industry, qualified at least 4-5 years to join their well structured legal department.

Reporting directly to the Head of Legal, candidates will handle a wide range of work including major capital finance projects, high value joint ventures, business development schemes and commercial agreements and will provide general ad-hoc advice on a wide spectrum of matters. Candidates must have excellent hands-on experience being accomplished in both negotiation and implementation.

This is an excellent position and will suit someone who is shrewd, outgoing, commercially aware and experienced in giving solid commercial advice at the sharp end.

Located in one of the most desirable locations in the North West, our client is prepared to pay an excellent salary and the full range of benefits including car, health, etc.

Charles Fellowes Partnership ®

To discover more about this exciting opportunity, please contact Mark Ryder at Charles Fellowes Partnership, 22 Deansgate, Manchester M3 1PH or telephone him on 0161 831 7007 (evenings and weekends 0161 926 9922).

LONDON LEEDS BRISTOL BIRMINGHAM MANCHESTER

LONDON & REGIONS

● COMM LIT To £42,000
Increasingly active blue chip client base leads this c. 30 partner City firm to seek a first class solicitor (3-4 yrs PQE) to join its expanding commercial litigation team. You will already be experiencing success and considerable responsibility in your present position, but be looking for the outstanding rewards and long term prospects that our client can offer.

● HEAD OF PROP £70-130,000
Profitable medium-sized niche litigation/ corporate law firm, Central London based, acting for major international clients and UK plcs to private companies seeks a dynamic senior property all-rounder (aged 35+) to spearhead the dept's growth. Part casebad awaits as does responsibility for developing the exceptional potential among existing clients. Full equity role envisaged short term.

● COMM PROP E. Anglia
Exceptional opportunity for a high calibre commerical property assistant (1-3 yrs) has arisen in this leading firm of c.40 partners. You will already have gained quality experience and will now be keen to take on a ful general caseload and to make maximum use of your inter personal skills. Excellent remuneration and career path offered.

● CORP FINANCE c£50,000
Identified by the partnership as being the key area for expansion our client, a city-based, relatively small but very highly regarded player in the market place seeks an additional potential partner c. 4 years pqe for its corporate finance team. Enterprising and ambitious you will have had excellent relevant experience, probably gained in a Top 10 City firm. Outstanding prospects.

● INSURANCE LIT to £50K
This substantial City firm has long been pre-eminent in the insurance sector. An excellent opportunity has arisen for a professional indemnity solicitor with 2-5 years litigation experience (some of it in professional indemnity matters) to take on a broad, high profile caseload.

● CO/ PROP /LIT N.West
Enterprising and ambitious, you may feel restrained by your present firm. If so, and you have excellent academics, 3+ yrs PQE, technical skills and the motivation to build your own team then this appointment to head up the satellite office of a highly successful and entrepreneurial firm, with the latest IT, will excite you. Outstanding prospects.

● HEAD OF LIT (Des) to £120,000
Highly focussed, innovative and flexible this c.30 partner City firm's major corporate/international client base reflects the range and quality of specialist expertise it offers. Litigation is a core, self generating, multi disciplinary dept. A forthcoming promotion and a resulting 'partner-gap' leads the firm to seek a dynamic senior litigator, practice developer, and manager, to take up the reins - a magnificent opportunity.

● CO / COMM Berks
Leading player in the Thames Valley with an exceptional record of growth and profitability throughout the recession now seeks an additional Assistant (1 - 2 yrs PQE) to handle a full, varied caseload with the opportunity to develop a specialisation. Rare chance to combine quality of work with quality of life.

● PERS INJ (Def) In-house
Major national insurance company seeks experienced solicitor (2 yrs+ PQE) for its London-based in-house legal team to handle personal injury claims (RTA, EL & PL). With proven ability to analyse and report on complicated issues, to handle liability, evidence and quantum and with High and County Court experience, you will be given responsibility for your own caseload. Very stimulating appointment.

To discuss any of these opportunities in greater detail please contact Jon Garrett or Simon Janion on 071 404 6669 (evenings/weekends 081 674 3971), or write to us, in complete confidence, at Eagan Janion Recruitment Ltd., 6 Warwick Court, London WC1R 5DJ. (Fax: 071 404 0469).

EAGAN JANION

DERIVATIVES LAWYER

CITY 0-4 YEARS PQE

Our client is one of the largest banking groups in the United States of America, with over 700 offices and 60,000 employees worldwide. It has a specialist derivatives subsidiary and is involved in the trading and distribution of foreign exchange and all major categories of derivatives.

An exceptional opportunity has now arisen for a young lawyer to join the derivatives group in London. The role will involve drafting and negotiating master agreements and related documentation for a broad range of derivative transactions, liaising with traders and marketers and the other business areas, including the provision of legal advice related to transaction documentation.

Applications are invited from confident and enthusiastic junior lawyers, who wish to specialise in derivatives, with some experience in capital markets or derivatives during training or alternatively post-qualified experience in capital markets or derivative documentation (either gained within another bank or a reputable city practice). This position offers the rare chance to gain some excellent "hands-on" experience within an informal but dynamic environment, and to be at the forefront of a rapidly expanding business area.

This assignment is being handled by Claire Hine and Roderick Muirhead at Reuter Simkin, Legal Recruitment Consultants. Please contact them on 0171 405 4161, or alternatively write to them at 5 Bream's Buildings, Chancery Lane, London EC4A 1DY (fax 0171 430 1140).

REUTER SIMKIN
The PSD Group

LONDON BIRMINGHAM MANCHESTER LEWES

UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME

(an American University)

London Law Centre

PROFESSOR OF LAW AND DIRECTOR

Applications are invited for the full-time post of Professor of Law and co-Director of the London Law Centre of the University of Notre Dame, an American University. The successful candidate will have teaching experience at a senior level and have proven administrative ability. The post involves not only teaching and administration but also liaison with both the English and the American legal communities in London and elsewhere in the British Isles.

Fuller details available from Professor A.L. Diamond, co-Director, London Law Centre, University of Notre Dame, 7 Albemarle Street, London W1X 4NB (0171-493 9002, FAX 0171-408 4465).

The review of applications received will commence on March 31 1995 with a view to the holding of preliminary interviews in April.

COMPANY/ COMMERCIAL LAWYER

Our Company Commercial Department is consistently expanding and handles a broad spectrum of company matters with property related elements.

An opportunity has arisen for a lawyer with not less than two years post qualification experience who in dealing with work of a demanding nature will combine his or her skills with a mature awareness of the client's needs. There will be full client contact and the successful applicant will be expected to apply his or her legal skills in a professional and pragmatic manner.

The remuneration will match the calibre of the appointee and long term prospects will be based on merit and ability.

Please apply to:

The Staff Partner
McKinty & Wright
Solicitors
Eagle Star House
5/7 Upper Queen Street
Belfast BT1 6FS

TO ADVERTISE CALL: 0171 481 4481

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

FAX: 0171 782 7899

GLOBAL FMCG COMPANY IN-HOUSE COUNSEL

Recognised on a global basis, our client is part of one of the UK's largest and pre-eminent business enterprises both in turnover and profit. In the FMCG sector, the company has manufacturing and processing operations in more than 45 countries employing 36,000 people. In addition, it has a substantial worldwide export business and overall its brands are available in 160 markets.

In 1994, the company acquired a majority shareholding in three privatised companies in the former Soviet Union, two in Russia and one in Uzbekistan and has made capital investment commitments totalling more than $200 million, in the main to modernise manufacturing facilities and to improve working conditions.

This vigorous expansion presents exceptional opportunities for two high-calibre lawyers:

MOSCOW

Based in Moscow, the Russian counsel will manage the legal affairs arising out of the company's business in Russia.

Responsibilities will be broad ranging and will include all company/ commercial matters, ensuring the implementation of capital investment programmes, liaising with government and regulatory authorities and managing internal/external legal advisers. Fluency in Russian and English is essential.

TASHKENT, UZBEKISTAN

Based in Tashkent, the Uzbek legal specialist will manage the legal affairs arising out of the company's business in Uzbekistan and will have comparable responsibilities to the Moscow based lawyer. Fluency in Russian and English is essential and fluency in Uzbek is desirable.

The successful candidates will possess a minimum of five years' post qualification experience and will probably have already achieved senior roles within industry.

In both instances, key personal attributes will include a highly developed commercial awareness and the ability to understand wider business issues whilst at the same time being able to address the detail of specific matters of legislative, regulatory and commercial importance. To succeed, candidates will need to possess the self confidence to undertake a lead role within an expanding and highly competitive business and the ability to interact at the highest levels of senior management.

Both roles will attract a competitive package commensurate with a company of this stature.

This assignment is being handled exclusively by **Deborah Kirkman** on behalf of **Robert Walters Associates**.

For further information in complete confidence please contact her on **0171 379 3333** (confidential fax **0171 915 8714**), or write to her at **25 Bedford Street, London, WC2E 9HP**.

ROBERT WALTERS ASSOCIATES



The media, computer and communications industries are converging and now present fascinating challenges for lawyers. The international computer and communications practice of Clifford Chance is pre-eminent in the field as recently confirmed by leading independent surveys.

The Group has significantly increasing volumes of work from recognised industry leaders and from industrial, commercial and financial sector clients whose businesses are affected by media, computer and communications products and services. The work is both advisory and transactional covering the full range of complex commercial, regulatory and technical issues characteristic of the information economy. This dedicated and dynamic team is now seeking additional talented lawyers.

You must have a genuine interest in the information technology, communications and media areas.

You should also have:-

- 2-4 years post qualification experience with an excellent academic record and a strong commercial training; and preferably
- previous experience in IT/IP/communications/media work as a specialist or as part of a general heavyweight commercial caseload.

You will be working with a team of high calibre lawyers and can expect a wide variety of work and access to first-rate resources and back-up.

Please contact Alison Smith or Richard Kellner:
0171-583 0073 (day)
0171-652 2762 (evening & weekends) or write to us at:
Badenoch & Clark,
16-18 New Bridge Street,
London EC4V 6AU
Fax 0171-353 3908

BADENOCH & CLARK
recruitment specialists

U.S. Qualified Attorney

The London office of a leading U.S. law firm is seeking a U.S. qualified attorney with excellent academic credentials and 3-6 years' experience, preferably including some litigation experience. Suitable candidates must possess the maturity and judgement to supervise outside counsel and manage an active litigation program. In addition, candidates should be sufficiently flexible to handle a broad range of issues and respond to the demands of this growing and varied practice.

Qualified candidates should forward a detailed CV and cover letter to:
Box No 3698
c/o Times Newspapers
PO Box 3553
Virginia Street
London E1 9GA

HASELTINE LAKE TRADEMARKS

Trade Mark Agent

Haseltine Lake Trademarks is one of the UK's largest firms of Trade Mark Agents with a wide range of UK and overseas direct clients. As a result of a substantial workload we are seeking an experienced, enthusiastic and hardworking Trade Mark Agent to join our friendly London team. Your responsibilities will cover all issues relative to major clients.

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هكذا من الاصل

Press intrusion: a call, below, for a novel system of settling disputes, and right, a newly discovered privacy ruling

Trial by the media

When Mirror Group Newspapers wisely settled the privacy action brought against it and Bryce Taylor by the Princess of Wales over unauthorised photos of her exercising in a gym, the tabloids were denied the court case of the century. The media in general was, however, spared an ordeal that would have focused on journalistic intrusion.

But the question of privacy and the reform of media law will not go away: this year could see further government threats of intervention after exposés of ministerial indiscretions. Though publication of the Lord Chancellor's consultation paper on a new tort of privacy (July 1993) may be shelved, the Heritage Department's forthcoming White Paper on media self-regulation is likely to have something to say on the limited powers of the Press Complaints Commission, and may well produce proposals for the introduction of criminal offences, as suggested by the Calcutt press self-regulation review, relating to use of long-lens cameras on private property and bugging of conversations.

> This would be quick, informal and not expensive

Whatever may or may not happen under the present Government, a Labour government seems almost certain to incorporate the European Convention on Human Rights into domestic law. Sooner or later British judges will be pronouncing on human rights cases without the parties having to embark on a seven-year trek to the European Commission of Human Rights and on to the Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg.

It also means that the interplay between the right of free speech under Article 10 of the Convention and privacy under Article 8 will become a live issue. Lord Mackay of Clashfern's recent statements about media law reform will become a reality and the media will have to decide whether the beneficiaries of the new fundamental human rights introduced into domestic law are to be lawyers or the man in the street.

Less adventurous reformers may believe that it is simpler to let Lord Woolf, with his review of civil justice, try to sort out the mess of our adversarial civil legal system with its expense, delay and inconvenience. There cannot, however, be a single media editor who relishes the prospect of privacy actions going the same way as libel actions have done over the past ten years.

The media generally should — while keeping the Press Complaints Commission and Broadcasting Complaints Commission as two effective "alternative dispute resolution" mechanisms — seriously consider setting up an informal arbitration service for those complaining about breaches of privacy and/or damage to their reputations. This alternative to High Court privacy and libel actions should be funded by the media.

If the press and broadcasting gave this commitment, it might head off the Lord Chancellor's introduction in the next few years of contingency-fee type arrangements for libel actions. While helping those who cannot afford an expensive libel action, this would lead to a far worse injustice: newspapers having to pay up and apologise rather than having to fight costly actions where there was no real chance of recovering crippling defence costs from an impecunious plaintiff.

The quid pro quo for industry funding of a media arbitration service would be a legal right for newspapers and broadcasting companies to apply to the High Court to have the simpler libel and privacy actions transferred to this arbitration service. This would be quick, informal and inexpensive but there would be a limit on the damages and costs which the arbitration panel could award — a maximum of £5,000 for general hurt and suffering and £2,500 in costs.

JULIAN HERBERT



A future White Paper could give guidelines on the use of long-lens cameras on private property

However, it would be possible for the claimant to claim for special damages if he or she had been damaged in their trade or profession. As in press or broadcasting commission complaints, media companies would be obliged to carry a "fair and accurate" report of the arbitrators' findings.

Before contemplating funding such a privatised arbitration system, media executives will need to be reassured that they are not creating a whole new class of litigant. This would not happen if complainants had to lodge the cost of a High Court writ — £100 — with a press or broadcasting ombudsman before the papers were reviewed to see whether the claim raised a good enough prima-facie case for it to be sent off to a three-person panel of adjudicators.

The Times has just completed an arbitration along precisely these lines. Patricia Guppy, the wife of Darius Guppy, the Old Etonian jailed for faking a jewel robbery, was deeply unhappy about articles in *The Times* on how her husband's trustee in bankruptcy would be interviewing her about her husband's missing millions. After issuing a High Court libel writ, the action could have cost both her and the newspaper substantial sums in contested hearings on the meaning of the articles.

Wisely, and on her solicitor's advice, both parties agreed to refer the issue of what the articles meant to a three-person arbitration panel chaired by Desmond Browne, QC, an experienced libel silk.

By agreeing to arbitration at this early stage, both parties were spared huge legal costs. Mr Browne and his two fellow adjudicators found that while the articles were capable of being defamatory, in the final analysis they were not and did not reflect badly on Mrs Guppy. The cost to the newspaper of funding the arbitration, as against what could have been a long and extremely expensive High Court action, was less than £2,000.

It is cases such as this and Mr Justice Popplewell's libel case against *Today*, when he was awarded only £7,500 for a serious allegation, which should convince the media that the time has come to "privatise" disputes of this kind. The High Court lottery system, enormously expensive to the media and the Government, is little more than a gravy train for overpaid barristers and solicitors. If simple actions went to the media arbitration tribunal, only the really heavyweight libel or privacy actions would be left to the vagaries and vicissitudes of a High Court action.

ALASTAIR BRETT

● *The author is Company Solicitor at* The Times. *His views on media law reform and arbitration do not necessarily represent the views of Times Newspapers or News International.*

Decision that was filed under F for forget it

It's official — the law of privacy is alive and well. Better still, "this fundamental right... has for centuries been recognised by the common law", according to Lord Scarman. Curiously, this judicial pronouncement was made in the House of Lords 15 years ago, when the legal profession to a man would have advised that no British right of privacy exists, as it would probably also do today.

The debates of the past decade over how to cover the apparent gap, the wringing of judicial hands over the resulting injustices, and the prodigious intellectual energy lavished on seeking a solution have taken place in ignorance of the decision of *Morris v. Beardmore*, reported in 1980*.

Lord Scarman's wholehearted endorsement of a right of privacy means that those with grievances, such as the actor Gorden Kaye, can now look forward to a meaningful remedy, rather than the extremely limited injunction, combined with its sorrow and sympathy, which was all the Court of Appeal felt able to afford him in 1990. Kaye had been photographed and interviewed in his private hospital room after brain surgery, when he was in only partial command of his faculties, and he wanted to prevent the *Sunday Sport* from publishing the fruits of what they described as "a great old-fashioned scoop". It goes without saying that the Royal Family's hand in its frequent skirmishes with the press over the years would likewise have been immensely strengthened had *Morris v Beardmore* been an available legal weapon.

How is it that the case lay undiscovered for so long? The sad truth is that having been decided on July 17, 1980, it was inadequately indexed in the law reports. As one of a series of decisions on the technicalities of the breathalyser laws, the headnote focuses purely on the fact that police investigating a damage-only road accident have no authority to request a breath test in the home of a driver where, because he has asked them to leave, they are trespassers.

In the indexes to the *Law Reports* and *All England Law Reports*, the case is mentioned by name under the "Road Traffic" heading, and the All England index includes a cross-reference, albeit without naming the case, under the heading of "Trespass".

It is not mentioned under "Privacy" in either (a heading, incidentally, which does not feature in the *Law Reports* index at all). Of the five law lords involved, four — Lords Edmund-Davies, Keith, Scarman and Roskill — made the invasion of individual privacy, a wider concept than the law of trespass, the basis of their decision. Lord Scarman's analysis is worth examining in detail:

In... restoring the decision of the magistrates, who acted with excellent judgment in dismissing the charges, I have deliberately used an adjective which has an unfamiliar ring in the ears of common lawyers. I have described the right of privacy as "fundamental". I do so for two reasons. First, it is apt to describe the importance attached by the common law to the privacy of the home... Second, the right enjoys the protection of the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Freedoms, which the United Kingdom has ratified. The present appeal is concerned exclusively with the suspect's right to the privacy of his home... (it) turns on the respect which Parliament must be understood, even in its desire to stamp out drunken driving, to pay to the fundamental right of privacy in one's own home which has for centuries been recognised by the common law.

Now that this gem and germ of potential legal development has been spotlighted, the profession can think again. Sir David Calcutt, and the British press, can add to the arguments against the introduction of a statutory law of privacy the fact that it already exists at common law. University lecturers can hold seminars and devise complicated examination questions on the subject, and the man on the Clapham omnibus can be pleased that his civil rights have been sensibly and significantly safeguarded.

ANTONY WHITAKER

● *The author is Legal Manager of Times Newspapers.*

* [1980] 3 W.L.R. 283, [1980] 2 All E.R. 753 and [1981] A.C. 446

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An ambitious show of Picasso's animal images opens a new arts centre in Croydon

ARTS

DANCE page 38

John Auld is a harmless Doctor Coppelius in Birmingham Royal Ballet's new production



Battersea power situation

The chance to do more than just act has drawn Susannah York to fringe theatre once again. **Michael Arditti** reports



MICHAEL POWELL

"I didn't have any musical education, so I don't understand about bars and when to come in," Susannah York says about her new role as a country singer

Nothing reflects the change in London theatre more clearly than the location of its stars. Gone are the great Shaftesbury Avenue constellations of 30 years ago. Indeed, Maggie Smith and Felicity Kendal are the only two indisputable star females currently to be seen in the West End. Janet Suzman, Claire Bloom and Diana Rigg have recently worked in Islington, north London, while in the past year Battersea, in the southwest, has hosted performances by Vanessa Redgrave, Susan Hampshire and now Susannah York — who claims credit for blazing the trail. "I started the move with *The Singular Life of Albert Nobbs* in 1978. My agent was very unsure. You weren't getting proper fees. And a lot of people judge you by what you earn, especially in America."

> "There's a feeling of danger. You can take risks"

She has since made regular visits to the Fringe: in Kleist's *Penthesilea*, her own translation of Cocteau's *The Human Voice*, and Daphne du Maurier's *September Tide*. Now she returns to the Latchmere in a new one-woman play, *Independent State*.

She believes that the quality of such work offsets the lack of remuneration. "You get asked to do interesting projects, not projects you can be sure about. There's a feeling of danger. You can take risks because there haven't been great outlays of money. You can do plays which, unless you're at the RSC or the National, you'd never have a chance to do."

She has never acted with either of the two main subsidised companies; although "I was asked to play Titania by Bill Alexander. But the kids were at school; and I couldn't go up to Stratford for six months." Nevertheless, she has always tried to balance appearances in modern and classical drama. "I've just played Ranevskya in *The Cherry Orchard*. It was such heaven to play a part that's been tested; they stand up so well as characters. There again, it's very exciting to think that you're breaking new ground. I love to work with writers."

Working on the Fringe also allows her a far greater measure of control than she would have in the commercial theatre or one of the large companies. "I'm very interested in creative producing. I can't get to grips with the money, but I like the idea of getting things done."

She has been involved with *Independent State* since its inception, having solicited the script from a literary agent after the offer of a British Council tour. "I read quite a few plays. This one really grabbed me. She's such a terrific character, Patty O'Brien, a woman who wanted to be a country-and-western singer in her teens. She played a few clubs and then got married and sucked into the system. On the outside, she led an incredibly drab and grey life; but she had a very rich *vie intérieure* to do with her dreams and fantasies. She was very earthy, very funny. She reminded me of Mehitabel in the Dorn Marquis stories, the alleycat who comes in from dreadful adventures, bloody but unbowed."

Having committed herself to the play, she worked on it for a year with the author, Mark Davies. "It's only through talking and talking to Mark that we've got it right. I've been a good sounding-board. He's written it round and for me. The beginning and end and where it takes place — a room in Nashville — haven't changed; but much else has."

The most crucial change has been the character's background. "She started life as a Liverpudlian from Bootle; she's become an Irish Catholic from Fulham. It's to do with the fact that I want to travel with the play. The Liverpudlian accent is hard in Europe, whereas the Irish allows more lyricism."

One of the greatest challenges of the role has been the inclusion of country songs. "I didn't have any musical education, so I don't understand about bars and when to come in. I don't have such a problem hitting notes, but I'm always about three miles ahead."

Her creative contribution comes as no surprise — it was much the same when, as as a young actress, she first appeared in films. "What you were given to say was often so banal that you rewrote it," she says. Even then, she was not cowed by reputations. Her second film, *Freud*, was made with Montgomery Clift for John Huston. "Huston would write scenes for us and this purple dialogue would pour out. Monty and I would go back to the hotel and gaze and groan and rewrite it. It stuck in your gullet."

Later, she originally turned down her Oscar-nominated role in *They Shoot Horses, Don't They?*, because she considered the part lacked truth. "I felt it was a wonderful story; but I couldn't play the character as written. I wrote a 20-page letter to James Poe [the original director] about her; and I got really excited because the character was starting to emerge. Then, when Sidney Pollack came on board, he read my letter and was very pleased with the direction the character was taking. So we went ahead."

The process was similar with her favourite film, Robert Altman's *Images*, for which she won the Best Actress award at Cannes. "When I first read the script, I thought I can't play this part. I don't know this woman, what she is and does and dreams. Bob said: 'I have to wait and find my actress and see what happens.' It was a great collaborative effort."

They recently renewed their collaboration by working together on the first draft of *Prêt-à-Porter*, in which York's daughter plays a small role.

Collaboration is the key to all York's work, whether on stage or screen. "What I love is the co-operative nature: getting together to put something on, to explore." With that in mind, she will remains at the Latchmere, after *Independent State* closes, to direct a new American double bill. "It's very inspiring seeing people coming through to the best of themselves. And it's a million times more exciting than doing *Trainer*."

● *Independent State is at the Latchmere Theatre, 503 Battersea Park Road, SW11 (0171-223 3549) from tomorrow until April 2 (except Mondays)*

CONCERTS IN LONDON

Finest funeral of 17th century

Music for Queen Mary
Westminster Abbey/BBC

TREMORS of mortality shook the Abbey on Sunday, on the 300th anniversary of Queen Mary's funeral there. But had it not been for Purcell we would doubtless have forgotten all about it. Thomas Shadwell was, after all, expressing something of a fond hope when he wrote that "No more shall we the great Eliza boast. For her great name in greater Mary's will be lost".

Those lines, from the end of Purcell's Birthday Ode *Now does the glorious day appear*, were given the lie within minutes on the same evening, as the capacity audience thrilled to the austerely beautiful music of Thomas Morley, emblem of the incomparable musical achievement of the first Elizabethan age.

Bruce Wood's research on Purcell's Funeral Music for Queen Mary two years ago has made it *de rigueur* to perform it hand-in-authentic-glove with Morley's *Burial Sentences*. The effect is stunning: Purcell's own *Thou knowest, Lord* breathes out from the last note of Morley's *In the midst of life*. And Morley's *I heard a voice* tunes sweetly into Purcell's dying fall.

This sequence, performed with steady sobriety by the Westminster Abbey Choir and the New London Consort, was the centrepiece of Martin Neary's dignified re-creation of the complete Funeral Music. Re-creation is a peculiarly tricky thing, and never more so than when the combined technical prowess of BBC2 and Radio 3 is on hand. Those at home may well have had a more authentic Funeral Experience than those of us instructed by clergy, dazzled by lights and mesmerised by TV monitors.

But nothing could distract from the singing of Emma Kirkby, from counter-tenor Michael Chance's "beauteous softness" with theorbo, and from the exquisite fusion of word and musical phrase in Ian Bostridge's performance of Blow's *The sullen years are past*.

HILARY FINCH

Birthday fizz

LSO/Boulez
Barbican

THESE are halcyon days for the London Symphony Orchestra. Two more instalments, last Thursday and Sunday, in its Pierre Boulez seventieth birthday celebrations brought two more packed houses and two programmes that combined refined pieces by the master with other great pieces of our own century.

On Thursday there was a cool, beautifully balanced reading of Ravel's *Le tombeau de Couperin*, music whose refinement points the way to the kind of artist that Boulez is. It is the colours that give this music impetus, and it was the colours that dictated Boulez's natural pacing of each movement here. But nothing would have been possible without the orchestra's meticulous concentration. This was an exhibition of refinement par excellence — as, in Sunday night's concert, was the LSO's performance of the same composer's rather less abstract *Mother Goose Suite*.

Kyung Wha Chung crowned the first concert with magnificent playing in Bartók's Second Violin Concerto. So often the concerto seems a ritual where one party is hellbent on exhibitionism and the other merely fulfils what it sees as a second-fiddle duty. There was none of that here.

If Bartók had to be in one concert, Stravinsky had to be in the other; in this case the original, 1911 version of *Petrushka*. The brusque intercutting from one scene or mood to the next is not dissimilar to the juxtaposition of contrasting blocks of sound in the enraptured celebration of nature which is Messiaen's *Chronochromie* of 1960, heard earlier. And Boulez's own delight in contrast was exemplified by the performance here of his gift to Paul Sacher on the latter's own seventieth birthday in 1976, *Messagesquisse*, for seven cellos, six of which accompany the line of the principal soloist.

Rostropovich was due to take the limelight but withdrew because of flu. But the LSO's new joint principal cello, Timothy Hugh, stepped into the breach with accomplishment.

STEPHEN PETTITT

Hooray for Hollywood

John Gregory Dunne writes films so that he can afford to write books. With the latest of the latter in the shops, he talks to **Clive Davis**



John Gregory Dunne happily bucks the studio system

John Gregory Dunne knows a fair amount about the mores and manners of the dream factory. He has made a living from the film industry, on and off, for the best part of 30 years, and until recently he lived in a low-key celebrity neighbourhood in Los Angeles. Mike Ovitz, agent-cum-potentate, was one of his neighbours; Rob Reiner lives on the same street; Jane Fonda grew up there. Today the area is better known as the home of O.J. Simpson.

With his wife, the writer Joan Didion, Dunne sold up and moved to New York in 1988. Dunne himself has the reassuringly casual look of the professional writer, but one who is still plugged into the system. He can point to an armchair in his apartment and say, matter of factly: "Robert Redford was sitting there yesterday."

They are working together on a film which is due to start production in a matter of weeks. Michelle Pfeiffer will co-star. Dunne and Didion are busy with rewrites which have to be faxed out to who knows where. The film, called *Close Up and Personal*, is loosely based on the true story of a news anchorwoman who burnt out, took drugs and died young. Dunne began work on the first draft seven years ago.

He delivers a graphic insider's account of the star system in his novel *Playland*. In his tangled, elliptical narrative are intertwined the stories of two human failures — Blue Tyler, a profane, fornicating *Shirley Temple*, and a cynical, independently wealthy screenwriter, Jack Broderick, a character who first appeared in Dunne's earlier novel, *Red White and Blue*.

Through a series of flashbacks, we follow Broderick's self-imposed quest to discover exactly why Tyler's career came to an abrupt end in the early 1950s, and why, 40 years later, she is a bag lady living in a trailer park in Michigan. The inquiry draws Broderick into a world of gangsters, double-dealing and sex. Driven along by unlikely coincidences, the plot delves deep into the conventions of melodrama. The vigorous, hard-boiled prose and the clever juggling of narrative voices help to keep the story from toppling into absurdity. And there is fun to be had from seeing actual celebrities — from Walter Winchell to Carole Lombard — woven into the story, as well as trying to determine whether, for instance, the camp, gossipy film director Chuckie O'Hara is based on George Cukor.

Dunne denies that he set out to write a *roman à clef*, but admits that he drew part of his initial inspiration from real characters. One of his clearest memories of his first years in New York, in the late 1950s, was spending evenings in a bar where one of the regulars was a faded, middle-aged woman whom he later discovered was the former star Veronica Lake.

That Dunne ever completed the manuscript of *Playland* says much for his tenacity. After a series of false starts he struggled with the storyline before being laid low by a potentially fatal heart condition. Major surgery followed. (It lasted 337 minutes — he knows this because the anaesthetist billed him by the minute.) Then a serious blood infection, caused by an insect bite, landed him back in hospital. It was while he was incapacitated that he began to impose some order on his material.

As for contemporary Hollywood, he claims to find it "too dull" to be worth writing a novel about. It so happened that the day we met was the day that the Oscar nominations were announced. Dunne, an Academy member himself (as is his wife) pronounced it "not a particularly good year". *Pulp Fiction* is over-rated — *Reservoir Dogs*, he thinks, was a much better film. He did not dislike *Forrest Gump* as much as he had expected, but still found it "a stupid, feel-good movie". The best picture of the year, for his money, was the basketball documentary *Hoop Dreams*.

Real life and rounded characters are, he thinks, more likely to be found in high-quality television series than in the cinema, a medium dominated more and more by movie brats who lack even a passing acquaintance with the world beyond the screening rooms. Dunne's disdain brings to mind one of Broderick's reflections in *Playland*: "I like writing movies. I am good at it, quick and always in demand. Movies provide me with a good living that I don't actually need."

Given their literary reputations, surely he and Didion are free to turn their back on the studio accountants and the boneheaded producers? He shakes his head: the screenplays that they have written — including the 1976 version of *A Star is Born*, the adaptation of Dunne's own novel *True Confessions* and others which never reached the screen — have all served a larger purpose. Without the royalties and the money from quickie rewrite commissions, they would not have had the means to publish 20-odd books between them.

As for the notion that all good writers are ruined by the studios, he waves it aside. "I've always thought that that was rubbish. The people who went to Hollywood and were ruined forever would have been ruined at 71st Street and Madison, or in Detroit or wherever they happened to be. They were raw material for being ruined."

● *Playland is published by Granta Books (£14.99)*

THEATRE: Touring company presents a dramatic evocation of the life of Dickens's mistress, Ellen Ternan

Truth behind the illusions

Stuffed Shirts and Marionettes
Warehouse, Croydon

THE four performers in this touring production by Public Parts are listed in the programme as playing "Conjurors" and this, apart from lowering the spirits somewhat, immediately strikes one as odd since the subject of the company's devised show is to be Miss Ellen Ternan, Dickens's beloved mistress for the last years of his life. How will conjurors fit into the story? But here they come, the four of them, on to a stage with a shadow-screen at the back and a floor designed to suggest the latticework of small glass panes that are set into pavements for letting light into underground rooms. Vic Llewellyn is dressed as a shabby Harlequin, bald as an egg and already beaded with sweat. Next to him stands top-hatted Aidan McCann, sporting a frock-coat, lugubrious. Here is Karen Hayes, with her blonde hair disordered, evidently down to play the street-walker roles. Completing the foursome we have Sarah Jewell, dark hair severely under control and ready to enter into the spirit of fiercely moral Victorian matrons.

Dickens kept his love affair with Ternan so tightly concealed that few facts had emerged before Claire Tomalin wrote *The Invisible Woman* a decade ago, well over a century after Dickens's death. (Ternan lived on until 1913.) It is this very secrecy, and the social necessity for it, that Public Parts set out to convey, and their chosen method, impressionistic, sardonic, consciously theatrical, enables them to dart swiftly between the public and the private faces of Victorian England, letting light into the murky underworld.

Ternan's family were theatre folk and we are shown more than we need to know about this — everyone gets to play Richard III — before the 18-year-old heroine meets the great man and is whisked away, with mother in tow, to a love-nest. Likewise, so many scenes illustrate the sordid lives of prostitutes that we are hard put to distinguish Ternan from any old good-time girl.

Set against this, however, is the vivid creation of an altogether artificial society where illusion rules, in the theatre, in fiction and between the sexes. Under Tom Critchley's direction the company have become a superb team, resourcefully comic in its employment of slapstick and Victorian word-games, bitter one moment, poignant the next. The contradictions of a complicated and sinister world are energetically conjured into being.

JEREMY KINGSTON

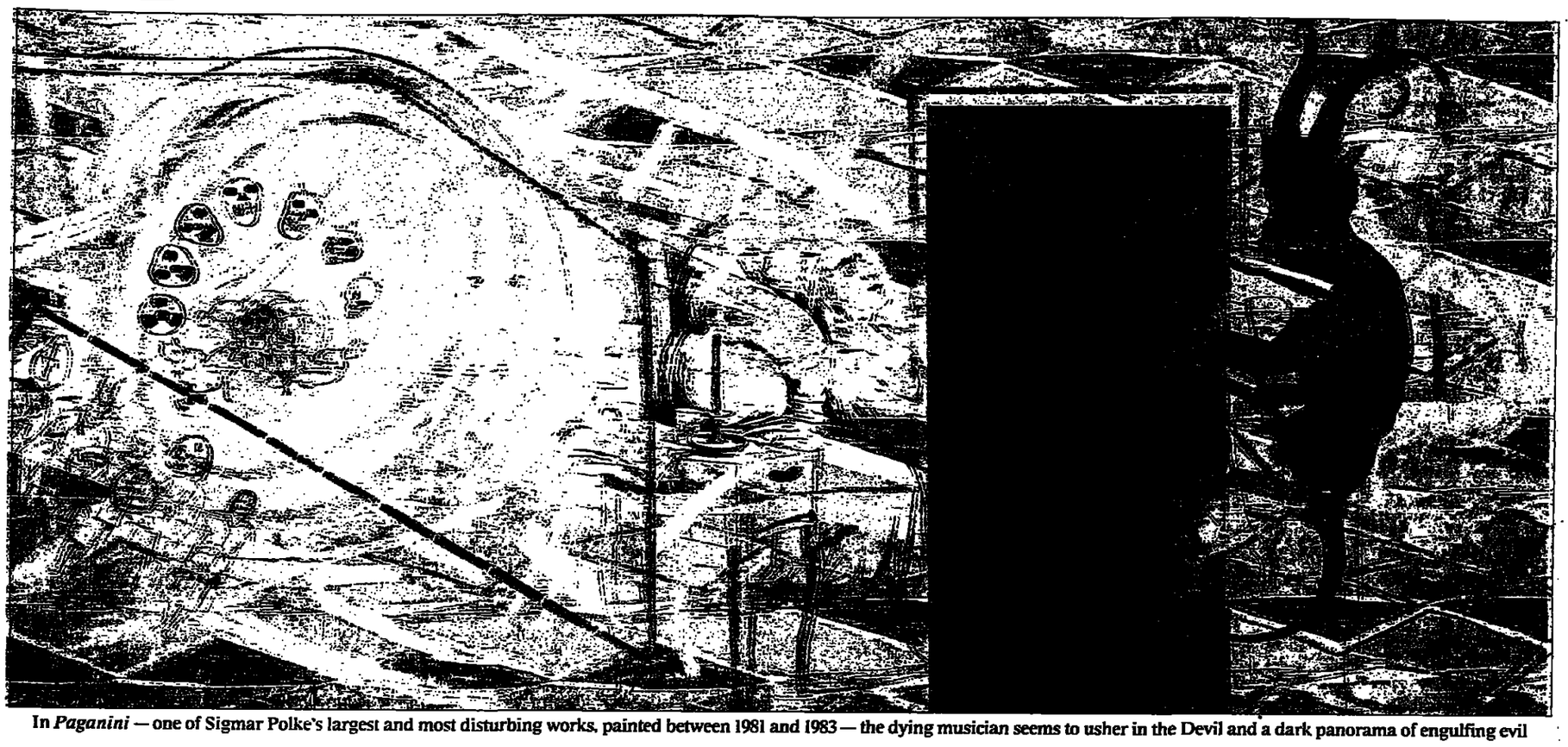


Victorian magic: Karen Hayes and Aidan McCann

VISUAL ART: A major German figure celebrated; Croydon's new gallery; and Camden's Irish connection

Target practice for a loose cannon

Richard Cork applauds the Tate in Liverpool for mounting the first British exhibition of Sigmar Polke's audacious paintings



In *Paganini* — one of Sigmar Polke's largest and most disturbing works, painted between 1981 and 1983 — the dying musician seems to usher in the Devil and a dark panorama of engulfing evil

Why has Sigmar Polke, regarded by many as the outstanding German painter of today, never been given a retrospective show in Britain before now? Largely, I suspect, because of his reputation as a loose cannon in European art. Over the last 30 years, Polke has made a habit of upsetting every expectation, revelling in blatant inconsistency and an unrepentant display of bad pictorial manners.

He has no time for the patient pursuit of a single, easily identifiable style. Restless to a chronic extent, Polke has charged through the complex thickets of modernism like a rogue elephant on the rampage. Perhaps the English, saddled with innate reticence, find this unruliness hard to stomach. Even now, with the advent of a major Polke exhibition at the Tate Gallery, Liverpool, there are no plans to bring the show down to London.

It is a pity. For the unpredictable German is quite unlike any other painter working at present. Maddening he may be, and at times bewilderingly diverse. But throughout this turbulent survey he keeps viewers on their toes, and pushes the art of painting in so many directions that the outcome is strangely intoxicating.

Not that the show begins in an exuberant way. The earliest exhibit is a surprisingly small, undemonstrative canvas. It looks, at first, like a Barnett Newman abstraction, with a vertical brown "zip" running down the centre. But then the little keyholes painted at either side of the division become apparent. With the minimum of fuss and the maximum of dry wit, they transform the picture into a representation of two doors. And Polke completes the metamorphosis by calling his quietly subversive picture *Wardrobe*.

Since this painting hang near a more playful image of sausages, seemingly leaping through space, we are tempted to ally the young Polke with the everyday concerns of Pop Art. He certainly looked on sweets, cakes and dairy products with relish, and filled many of his early canvases with their saccharine, gooey forms. Indeed, he stressed the links between art and consumerism by staging a 1963 show, with his friends Gerhard Richter and Konrad Lueg, in a Düsseldorf furniture store. Their paintings were displayed in various departments, while the artists exhibited themselves in a sitting-room area as "living structures" in armchairs perched on pedestals.

The more we look at Polke's work of the period, though, the less it resembles Warhol or Lichtenstein. He and Richter may have called themselves exponents of Capitalist Realism, but neither artist subscribed wholeheartedly to the tenets of New York Pop. There is nothing flashy about Polke's early work. Although he sometimes adopted the benday dots of photo-mechanical reproduction, the outcome is far removed from Lichtenstein.

Polke's 1965 *Girlfriends* uses those dots in a highly irregular spirit. He flouts the systematic, deadpan method of Lichtenstein, so that the dots end up scrambling the image rather than ordering it. Polke's anarchic hand can always be detected, making sure that the banal subject-matter never takes too much attention away from the wayward strategies of the artist himself.

He was too idiosyncratic ever to strive for the impersonal finish of Warhol. We soon become aware, at Liverpool, of a fascination with printed fabrics. They are often used instead of canvases, and he is happy to let them play a major part in the completed painting. But he never lets them prevent him from making his own, defiantly quirky contribution as well. In *Woman at a Mirror*, Polke uses an outrageously kitsch leopard-skin fabric as the basis of the image. On top, though, his deft brush summarises the contours of a female figure culled from advertising graphics. She reinforces the luxurious aura of the leopard-skin and, at the same time, challenges its attempt to dominate our attention.

As Polke's work gathered pace, so he distanced himself from all the avant-garde movements of the day. Minimalism was deflated in an ironic painting called *Carl Andre in Delft*, where the grid of blank squares favoured by Andre's floor sculptures are filled with illusionistic images of blue Delft tiles. Polke further distanced himself from the heroic era of modernism by painting a composite abstraction, half geometric and half splashy, and then inscribing it like a caption in a book with the catch-all title *Modern Art*.

> He detached himself from avant-garde movements of his day

Words, in fact, grew into an effective weapon of their own as he intensified his satirical assault. The paint in one 1969 canvas is confined to a black triangle, as clean-cut and flat as an Ellsworth Kelly. But Polke punctures the inherent pretensions by writing near the base: *The Higher Powers Command: Paint the Right Hand Corner Black!*

The fact that the words look as if they have been printed, by an ordinary typewriter, only adds to the mockery. It is a wonderfully impure intrusion, destroying the impeccable authority of the abstract form above. The more Polke undermined the prevailing languages of art, though, the more he ran the risk of becoming incestuous. However challenging these pictures may appear, they seem after a while excessively ingrown. Clearing the ground can be a very invigorating enterprise, but only if you proceed to build a convincing alternative on the levelled site.

For a while, during the 1970s, Polke was unable to furnish painting with just such a new role. He collaborated heavily, suppressing his own initiative to an alarming extent. Then he concentrated on photography, film and video for the rest of the decade. Hallucogenic drugs increasingly dictated his interests, and he semed to have abandoned painting for ever.

With hindsight, though, we can now see how this difficult, uneven period, scarcely represented at Liverpool, served as the springboard for an astonishing renewal. The advent of another decade was heralded by one of his largest and most impressive paintings: *Paganini*. In one sense, it is an elegiac work. The composer himself occupies the middle of the picture, expiring on his death-bed in faint outlines reminiscent of a 19th-century engraving.

But his hands are still raised, as though waving to the rhythm of the violin played by the Devil crouching on the end of his bed. This horned apparition, freely brushed in near-silhouette, is the most prominent figure. Macabre yet irresistible, he presides over the entire panorama, lending a diabolic energy even to the grinning clown on the far side of this unusually wide composition.

Below the jester, a row of figures recall the people in Polke's work from the early 1960s. They seem absurdly innocent and helpless here, however. For the clown is juggling with skulls which gradually become radioactive and besmirched with swastikas as they tumble from his grasp. Everything in this half of the picture is caught up in a vortex, suggesting that Paganini's death somehow ushered in the engulfing advance of evil.

The mood of this powerful painting is far darker and more agitated than his earlier exhibits. It also begins a decisive shift away from the obsession with consumerism and art-about-art. Now Polke stares deep into history, and is not at all reassured by the forces he discovers there. As if to stress the hazardous, at times apocalyptic currents at work, he starts using highly volatile and toxic substances that accentuate the paint's instability. And he reminds us, at every turn, of art's capacity to deceive. Diagrammatic projections are set up in *Measuring Clothes*, only to be flouted by the introduction of real shirts and trousers. Wooden stretchers normally hidden from the front of paintings suddenly become visible, as Polke begins to paint on transparent surfaces.

In a monumental recent work called *The Three Lies of Painting* all these strategies come into play, along with his familiar use of fabric and a sense of absurdity akin to Surrealism. Max Ernst seems to be invoked in some paintings, especially when Polke deploys figures based on engravings from the past. Fundamentally, though, he is out on his own. The variety of styles continues to dis-concert, just as Polke leaps with dizzying speed from the French Revolution to grainy news photographs of refugees camps. The freedom with which he roams through time is as exhilarating as his refusal to cultivate a tight, narrow identity. Now in his mid-fifties, Polke is working with as much zest as ever.

● Sigmar Polke *is at the Tate Gallery, Albert Dock, Liverpool (0151-709 3223) until April 17*

CORPORATE COLLECTING

ANY art located on an upper floor of Canary Wharf is likely to face stiff daytime competition from the views, *John Russell Taylor writes*. It is therefore probably just as well that the unveiling of the Credit Suisse London art collection is not taking place in some new gallery, which would be bizarrely located indeed, but in the offices for which the works have been specially designed.

Eight artists were commissioned to make site-specific pieces, and works by six more were acquired with the requirements of the location in view.

The artists commissioned have come up generally with boldly original work, far removed from the usual idea of "corporate art". Tony Cragg, for example, has carved in various fruit woods large fantasy renderings of pens, pencils and an inkwell, which loll in the corners of the Sculpture Room. Sol Lewitt has designed large and bold coloured abstractions for the Thames Room.

Installation artists of international note have been brought in. The Apollo Room is lined with *papier mâché* masks, musical scores and other materials generally reconciling art and nature, by the French team Anne and Patrick Poirier. The Spanish artist Juan Muñoz has put together a series of miniature wooden rooms inhabited by doll-like lead figures. The staff restaurant has been handed over in its entirety to Bruce McLean, whose lively designs serve as decorative murals and sculptures as well as skilfully articulating the space.

The Credit Suisse London art collection at Canary Wharf may be viewed by special appointment only. Tel 0171 888 8911.

No clear dividing line

Sacha Craddock on a painter whose canvases mix the personal with the political



Work in progress: Rita Donagh's painting, *Slade*, 1994

Rita Donagh's paintings hover between abstraction and illustration. She is of a generation which insists that painting was never there to describe or narrate alone.

The opening of her semi-retrospective at Camden Arts Centre coincided with the leaking of details of the Anglo/Irish framework document. Although many of Donagh's works are in some way concerned with Northern Ireland — the most notorious are her H block paintings in which the form or shape of an H hovers in illusory space — her treatment of the subject is complex. Donagh's family is from Ireland, but the tendency to equate personal experience with an obvious source of subject matter is too simplistic here. Donagh allows the processes of thought to run parallel with real events, real life and politics.

The earliest work here dates from 1974. Donagh says that her generation was the first to embrace what she calls the "wholly wonderful" possibility of working with figuration and abstraction simultaneously. Her paintings are closely related to her drawings. They range in focus from a crisp graphic clarity through to the blur of non-descriptive colour.

Donagh acknowledges that her work has precedents in early Modernism. She found, though, that before her own generation artists used to be fiercely divided: you were either an abstract artist, standing up for what that meant, or adamantly, and apparently conversely, figurative.

It was the women's movement that allowed Donagh to overcome these divisions. Students and younger artists encouraged her to incorporate both public and private, decorative and expressive, geometric and descriptive, verbal and silent, serious and playful into her work. Previously, she says, women artists worked under a sort of "counter-pressure", often reacting by throwing themselves into geometry, or a theory or system. The risk was of "losing the part of yourself that has to do with feeling".

It may seem obvious now that the H in a painting such as *Lough Neagh*, 1984, could never be separated in our minds from the vision of the H Block. "What was interesting about that configuration," Donagh says "is that it instantly carried a charged meaning: the hunger-strikes. Looking back at it now, it seems almost melodramatic. Perhaps I was influenced by this awful sense of what might never be resolved. Of terrible consequences."

But at the same time, the painting was also a personal investigation into the way imagery, symbolic as well as spatial, can be used within a painting. Donagh's method lends itself to such an ambition. The paint is thin, sparse, used purely for its descriptive qualities rather than its volume or texture. Donagh lets space, or at least the illusion of space, create places in which to float visual ideas. She says that she may do more abstract work in the future. She sees abstraction as a way of "not wanting to say anything for a time, a silence".

The situation in Ireland is changing fast. Will that affect the work she makes? Perhaps Donagh will allow that painterly silence to descend. *Slade*, her most recent work, invites a multilayered interpretation. A self-portrait on one side shares the painting surface with an "abstract" motif. It is based on the first day she came to teach at the Slade: she was automatically led to the Life Room, because the only women who worked in the school at the time were models in the life class.

● Rita Donagh *is at Camden Arts Centre, Arkwright Road, NW3 (0171-435 2643) until March 26*

Picasso's entry in zoo's who

John Russell Taylor marvels at the way a new arts centre in Croydon has managed to track down and capture the beasts in a great man

THE inauguration of a new arts centre is always good news, especially if it contains an art gallery which is capable of attracting exhibitions of international calibre. The remarkable thing about the new Croydon Clocktower is that not only does it fit these criteria perfectly, but its opening exhibition, **Cock and Bull Stories: A Picasso Bestiary**, was created specially by and for it.

The idea of the show's curator, Neil Cox, is simple enough. Given that animals played such an important and recurring role throughout Picasso's career, would it not be interesting and novel to put together a bestiary along traditional lines using images in two dimensions and three — from the *Head of a Cat* Picasso drew in 1892, at the age of 11, to the mezzotint of a *Man With Two Women and a Dog* he made in 1971, when he turned 90.

Such a project could, of course, be quite humble. There are so many multiples that would fill the bill: prints and ceramics particularly. The closest Picasso himself came to ordering his artistic thoughts in this way was a plan of 1907, never carried further than some slight sketches, to illustrate his friend Apollinaire's book of poems *Le bestiaire cortège d'Orphée*. In 1936 he returned to a similar subject with 32 aquatints he made for a protected edition of Buffon's *Histoire Naturelle*, and these prints alone, in their various states, would make a very respectable exhibition.

At Croydon, however, they provide merely one recurrent strand. Taking its inspiration more specifically from an illuminated Latin Bestiary of the mid-13th century, borrowed from the Bodleian, the show is a multifaceted evocation of Picasso's delight in animals through prints and ceramics, as well as an amazing selection of major paintings and sculptures borrowed from all over Europe.

There are nine phases which flow smoothly into one another with a minimum amount of print to read on the walls. For those inclined to read there is an admirable book, *A Picasso Bestiary*, by Neil Cox and Deborah Pouncy, which vividly fills in the background of the show from an immense range of parallels and allusions.

For those non-specialists who are more chary of the printed word, there is a brilliantly worked-out interactive computer programme which imparts an amazing amount of information in the form of a near-game that anyone capable of touching a screen can play. Not to mention a wide array of related events in the shape of talks and tours, workshops, music and dance.

The gallery itself is on the entrance floor of the very grand late-Victorian baroque building which used to house Croydon Library (and, in a sense still does, in a new Post-Modern block approached through the old entrance under Braithwaite Hall, the original reference library that is now used as a concert hall).

The temporary exhibition spaces consist of two large interlinked galleries, right next to the new Riesco Gallery, a permanent home for the collection of Chinese ceramics left to the municipality by a local inhabitant in 1964, with another temporary exhibition space for related material at its centre. Upstairs there is a new local history museum display, *Lifetimes*, which also boasts, as well as objects lent by hundreds of locals, further interactive computer documentation.

But finally, it is the Picasso that will bring outsiders to Croydon. And it is well worth the trip. Two of the very earliest Picasso oil paintings, *A Donkey* and *Klipper, his Dog*, which come from the Museu Picasso in Barcelona, show what he was capable of at the age of 14. The wonderful *Acrobat Family from Goteborg* (1905), relevant because it features a large, exquisitely painted monkey, has never been shown in this country before.

There is a major painted sculpture from the 1950s, *Head of a Bull*, the important 1945 painting *Child With Doves* from the Musée Picasso in Paris, and alarming images of detached sheep's heads on a table from 1925 and 1959.

Even for those who feel that where Picasso is concerned they have seen it all will find something new to astonish and enchant.



Picasso's *Still life with Cat and Lobster* (1962), painted 70 years after the earliest entry in Croydon's show

DACS

● Cock and Bull Stories *is at Croydon Clocktower, Katharine Street, Croydon (0181-253 1030) until May 14. Admission £4.50, concessions £2.25. A Picasso Bestiary is published by Academy Editions (£19.95)*

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TODAY'S EVENTS

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Kris Anderson

LONDON

CONVERSATIONS WITH MY FATHER. Opening night for Judd Hirsch, recreating his Tony Award-winning performance in Herb Gardner's 1992 Broadway hit: fathers and sons, aggro and *anti-Semitism, set in New* York's Lower East Side. Alan Ayckbourn directs, after a sell-out season at his own Stephen Joseph Theatre-in-the-Round. **Old Vic**, Waterloo Road, SE1 (0171-928 7616). Tonight, 7pm. Then Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Wed and Sat, 2.30pm. Booking through June.

SCOTT HAMILTON: The popular American saxophonist arrives on our shores fresh from his annual engagement with Rosemary Clooney at the Rockefeller Center's cabaret in the sky, the Rainbow and Stars. Lovers of the great swing man's style, from Lester Young to Ben Webster and Zoot Sims, should not miss the show. **Pizza Express**, Dean Street, W1 (0171-439 8722). This week, Wed-Fri, from 8.30pm. Also Mar 12-13, 15-18. Hamilton is in **Glasgow** tonight. **Moir Hall** (0141-227 5511).

PEACE IN OUR TIME. The Touring Partnership's second production is the first revival of Coward's 1948 drama, imagining a Britain conquered by the Nazis. Wyn Jones directs the 30-strong cast. **Richmond**, *The Green, Richmond* (0181-940 0088). Tonight-Sat, 7.45pm; mats Thurs and Sat, 2.30pm. Next stop, **Cardiff**, New Theatre (0222 394844).

ELSEWHERE

CANTERBURY: Rambert Dance closes its relaunch tour with a double-bill this week. Tonight through Thursday you can be treated to Christopher Bruce's own *Crossing* and *Sergeant Early's Dream*, a regular favourite set to traditional folk songs. Later in the week, Bruce's *Land*, Jiří Kylián's *Petit Mort* and Ohad Naharin's magical *Axioma 7*. **Marlowe**, The Friars (01227 787787). Tonight-Sat, 7.30pm.

IPSWICH: What I Did in the Holidays unfolds the tangled relationships on a Devon farm in 1963 when hitchhikers open up the wider world for an 11-year-old boy. *Mike Alfreds directs Philip* Osment's latest for Cambridge Theatre. **Wolsey**, Civic Drive (01473 253725). Tonight-Fri 7.45pm, Sat 8pm; mats Wed 2.30pm and Sat, 4pm. Until Mar 18.

GLASGOW: The mesmerising **Maria Ewing** is accompanied by Roger Vignoles for tonight's recital, the only UK appearance on her current tour. Her *programme features works by* Brahms, Strauss, Duparc and Debussy. **Royal Concert Hall**, Buchanan Street (041-227 5511). Tonight, 7.30pm.

LEEDS: Final week of performances for Timothy West and Christopher Strauli, making a seemingly perfect pair of MPs in Alan Bennett's **Getting On**. Prunella Scales directs the serio-comic glimpses into the private lives of a politician and his loved ones. **Quarry**, West Yorkshire Playhouse, Quarry Mount (0113-244 2111). Tonight-Fri, 7.30pm; Sat, 8pm; mats Wed, 2pm and Sat, 3pm.

NORWICH: This week is also your last chance to catch **Opera North's** zingy staging of *Oberto*, Verdi's first opera: John Tomlinson both directs and sings the jealous, vengeful father of the title role. Another rarely performed work, William Walton's *Troilus and Cressida*, can be seen on Thursday and a most memorable *Tosca* rounds out the week. **Theatre Royal**, Theatre Street (01603 630000). Tonight-Sat, 7.30pm.

LONDON GALLERIES

Barbican: Impressionism in Britain (0171-638-4141) ... **British Museum:** The Rumbustious World of Thomas Rowlandson (0171-636 1555) ... **Courtauld:** Frank Dobson: Sculpture 1915-1954 (071-873 2526) ... **Hayward:** Yves Klein (071-928 3144) ... **National Gallery:** The Age of Elegance (0171-839 3321) ... **National Portrait Gallery:** The Road from 1945 (0171-306 0055) ... **Royal Academy:** Nicolas Poussin (0171-439 7438) ... **Tate:** Willem de Kooning (0171-887 8000) ... **V&A:** Warworks: Women Photographers (0171-938 8500)

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ House full, returns only
◩ Some seats available
□ Seats at all prices

□ **BROKEN GLASS:** Arthur Miller's masterly drama, distilling his lifelong concern with personal responsibility. *David Thacker's production, with Henry* Goodman and Margot Leicester. **Duke of York's**, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-836 5122). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Wed and Sat, 3pm.

□ **THE CLANDESTINE MARRIAGE:** Nigel Hawthorne plays the dilapidated Lord Ogleby and directs a strong cast in this good-hearted comedy about *18th-century greed, snobbery and love.* **Queens**, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5041). Tonight-Sat, 7.30pm; mat Sat, 2.30pm. Final week.

■ **DEALER'S CHOICE:** Patrick Marber's fascinating poker drama. Funny one-liners abound, along with *perceptions of the roots of gambling.* **National** (Cottesloe), South Bank, SE1 *(0171-928 2252) Tonight, 7.30pm.*

□ **DESIGN FOR LIVING:** Rachel Weisz, Rupert Graves and Marcus D'Amico in Coward's *menage à trois* comedy. Sean Mathias's awardwinner, with even more sexual rough and tumble than at the Donmar. **Gielgud**, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5065). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats *Thurs, 3pm and Sat, 4pm.*

◩ **IN PRAISE OF LOVE:** Peter Bowles and Lisa Harrow in Rattigan drama about being very brave when facing death. Richard Olivier directs. **Apollo**, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5070). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Thurs, 3pm and Sat, 5pm.

◩ **INDIAN INK:** Felicity Kendal, Art Malik and Margaret Tyzack in Tom Stoppard's latest, wittily, poignantly, exploring aspects of Anglo-Indian resentments and respect. **Aldwych**, Aldwych, WC2 (0171-416 6003). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Wed and Sat, 3pm.

■ **ION.** *Nicholas Wright directs* Euripides's tragi-comedy, neatly described a "drama of epic characters with domestic problems". Superb performances led by Jude Law as the boy dismayed to learn that Apollo raped *his mother. Final performances.* **Pit**, Barbican, Silk Street EC2 (0171-638 8891). *Tonight-Thurs, 7.15pm; mat* Thurs, 2pm.

□ **KILLER JOE.** Utterly absorbing shock-drama by Tracy Letts where a trash-trailer family virtually annihilates itself by employing a hit-man to kill their unwanted Mom. Wilson Milam directs the original Chicago production. **Vaudeville**, Strand, WC2 (0171-836 9987). Mon-Sat, 8pm.

□ ***MAMA I WANT TO SING:*** *The* longest-running Off-Broadway black musical, based on the life of the Harlem singer Doris Troy (who here plays her own mother). Cast includes the charismatic Chaka Khan. **Cambridge**, Earlham Street, WC2 (0171-494 5080). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mats Tue and Sat, 3pm. Until Apr 8.

◩ ***THE PRESENT:*** *Australian control* freaks bewildering a naive young Brit. Nick Ward's latest, excellent acting but weird stuff. **Bush**, Shepherds Bush Green, W12 (0181-743 3388). Mon-Sat, 8pm. Extended until Mar 25.

□ **THE STRIP:** Phyllis Nagy's latest, set in Las Vegas where an odd bunch of characters is converging for a total *eclipse. Steven Pimlott directs a large* cast that includes Cheryl Campbell, Nicholas Farrell, Nicholas le Prevost. **Royal Court**, Sloane Square, SW1 (0171-730 1745). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mat Sat, 3.30pm.

□ **STRICTLY ENTRE NOUS:** Dudley Sutton plays W H Auden when old and Rupert Holliday-Evans when young, in *Vince Foxall's wry and convincing play* set in a shabby Viennese hotel. **BAC**, Lavender Hill, Battersea, SW11 (0171-223 2223). Tonight-Sat, 8pm, Sun 6pm. Final week.

■ **THE THREEPENNY OPERA:** *Phyllida Lloyd's splendidly inventive* revival of Kurt Weill's opera. Tom Hollander sings Macheath *and words by* "Bertolt Brecht". **Donmar Warehouse**, Earlham Street, WC2 (0171-369 1732). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Wed and Sat, 3pm.

LONG RUNNERS

□ **Arcadia:** Haymarket (0171-930 8800) ... □ **Buddy:** Victoria Palace (0171-834 1317) ... ◩ **Cats:** New London (0171-405 0072) ... □ **Crazy for You:** Prince Edward (0171-734 8951) ... ◩ **Grease:** Dominion (0171-416 6060) ... ◩ **Miss Saigon:** Theatre Royal (0171-494 5400) ... □ **The Mousetrap:** St Martin's (0171-836 1443) ... ■ **Oliver!:** Palladium (0171-494 5020) ... ◩ **A Passionate Woman:** Comedy (0171-369 1731) ... □ **She Loves Me:** Savoy (0171-836 8888) ... □ **Starlight Express:** Apollo Victoria (0171-828 8665) ... ◩ **Sunset Boulevard:** Adelphi (0171-344 0055) ■ **Three Tall Women:** Wyndhams (0171-369 1736)

Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

NEW RELEASES

◆ **PRET-A-PORTER** (15): Surprisingly feeble satire on the fashion world from Robert Altman. With Kim Basinger, Sophia Loren, Marcello Mastroianni, *Stephen Rea and many others.* **Electric** (0171-792 2020) **MGMs: Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Tottenham Court Road** (0171-636 6148) **Odeons: Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **West End** (01426 915574) **UCI Whiteleys** (0171-792 3332)

LES ROSEAUX SAUVAGES (15): Sensitive drama about French provincial adolescents during the Algerian War: a childhood reminiscence from director André Téchiné. **MGM Panton Street** (071-930 0631)

CURRENT

BANDIT QUEEN: Dynamic, controversial drama about India's legendary outlaw; a ground-breaking production by Shekhar Kapur. **Chelsea** (0171-351 3742) **Clapham** *Picture House (0171-498 3323)* **Curzon West End** (0171-369 1722) **Odeon Kensington** (01426 914666) **Screen/Green** (0171-226 3520)

◆ **BLACK BEAUTY:** Unsatisfying, gloomy version of the children's classic, featuring Sean Bean and David Thewlis. Director, Caroline Thompson. **UCI Whiteleys** (0171-792 3332) **Warner** (0171-437 4343)

◆ **INTERVIEW WITH THE VAMPIRE** (18): Tom Cruise shows Brad Pitt the vampire way of life. Dull, over-stuffed version of Anne Rice's book. Director, Neil Jordan. **MGMs: Tottenham Court Road** (0171-636 6148) **Trocadero** (0171-434 0031) **UCI Whiteleys** (0171-792 3332) **Warner** (0171-437 4343)

◆ **LEON** (18): Precious child shelters under a hitman's wing. Sleek, empty thriller shot in New York by French director Luc Besson. With Jean Reno, Natalie Portman and Gary Oldman. **MGMs: Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Shaftesbury Avenue** (0171-836 6279) **Tottenham Court Road** (0171-636 6148) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Mezzanine** (01426 915683) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098)

◆ **NATURAL BORN KILLERS** (18): Warped lovers embark on a shooting rampage, with the media in pursuit. Wearisome excess from director Oliver Stone; with Woody Harrelson and Juliette Lewis. **Clapham Picture House** (0171-498 3323) **Gate** (0171-727 4043) **MGM Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **West End** (01426 915574) **Screen/Baker Street** (0171-935 2772) **UCI Whiteleys** (0171-792 3332)

◆ **ONLY YOU** (PG): Marisa Tomei chases the man of her dreams through Italy. Lazy blend of comedy, romance and travelogue, with Robert Downey Jr. Director, Norman Jewison. **MGM Trocadero** (0171-434 0031) **Odeon Mezzanine** (01426 915683) **UCI Whiteleys** (0171-792 3332)

◆ **THE ROAD TO WELLVILLE** (18): Frolics and chicanery at a turn-of-the-century sanitarium. Overdone health food satire, with Anthony Hopkins, Bridget Fonda, Matthew Broderick. Director, Alan Parker. **Warner** (0171-437 4343)

◆ **QUIZ SHOW** (15): Director Robert Redford resurrects a TV scandal of the late 1950s. Fine performances (John Turturro, Ralph Fiennes, Paul Scofield), but not enough bite, or relevance. **Barbican** (0171-638 8891) **MGM Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Odeons: Haymarket** (01426 915353) **Kensington** (01426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **Screen/Hill** (0171-435 3366) **UCI Whiteleys** (0171-792 3332) **Warner** (0171-437 4343)

◆ **THE RIVER WILD** (12): Criminals imperil a family on their white water rafting holiday. Enjoyable action thriller, *with Meryl Streep and Kevin Bacon.* Director, Curtis Hanson. **Barbican** (0171-638 8891) **Clapham Picture House** (0171-498 3323) **Empire** (0800 888911) **MGMs: Baker Street** (0171-935 9772) **Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Trocadero** (0171-434 0031) **Notting Hill Coronet** (0171-727 6705) **UCI Whiteleys** (0171-792 3332)

◆ **SHALLOW GRAVE** (18): Wickedly enjoyable comedy-thriller about three Edinburgh chums and a corpse loaded with money. Danny Boyle directs Kerry Fox, Christopher Eccleston and Ewan McGregor. **MGMs: Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Haymarket** (0171-839 1527) *Shaftesbury Avenue (0171-836 6279)* **Warner** (0171-437 4343)

◆ **THE SHAWSHANK REDEMPTION:** How to survive long decades in prison. Engrossing drama with Tim Robbins and Morgan Freeman. Director, Frank Darabont. **MGM Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Leicester Square** (01426 915683) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **UCI Whiteleys** (0171-792 3332)

◆ **STARGATE** (PG): Galactic adventures of Kurt Russell and James Spader. Preposterous, derivative but fun; Roland Emmerich directs. **MGM Trocadero** (0171-434 0031) **Odeon Mezzanine** (01426 915683) **UCI Whiteleys** (0171-792 3332) **Warner** (0171-437 4343)

SUTURE: Hypnotic melodrama with avant-garde trimmings from new American film-makers Scott McGehee and David Siegel. **Metro** (0171-437 0757)

DANCE: **Debra Craine** reviews an attractive new production from Birmingham Royal Ballet

All dolled up in bright designs

The great advantage of using a designer like Peter Farmer — one completely conversant with the demands of dance rather than beholden to design trends in the theatre — is that a prized possession in the 19th-century ballet repertoire can be renewed without destroying the very qualities that made us treasure it in the first place. Unlike some of the design indignities visited on Tchaikovsky's ballets in recent years, Farmer's new *Coppélia*, unveiled by Birmingham Royal Ballet on Friday, is both logical and lovely so that, 125 years after the ballet's premiere in Paris, it still retains its enchantment.

Coppélia
Birmingham Hippodrome

Coppélia is miles away from the exoticism and fantasy of the Russian classics. There are no swans, no fairies, no witches — only a mechanical doll, a strong-willed young woman and a dotty sorcerer-scientist. Farmer's sets and costumes pick up on different aspects of the story: the rustic Carpathian charm of the East European village square in Act I; the sniff of mystery and magic in Dr Coppelius's cavernous dingy workshop, where Bunsen burners burble against a backdrop of musty velvet curtains. Only in Act III, in the opulent gardens of the Duke's mansion, does Farmer run the risk of over-aggrandisement — putti and candelabra vie for our attention with the decorative baroque excesses of the new village bell.

The choreography is more or less unchanged from Wright's 1979 production (now in the possession of the Scottish Ballet). Derived from the Petipa-Cecchetti version, Wright's focuses on the detail of the story (remarkably straightforward by ballet standards) and the need to give each of its components a place in a unified whole. This is clearest in Act III, where the centrepiece of the Festival of the Bell makes sense of Dawn, Prayer and Work, dances which can seem to come out of nowhere in productions that have curtailed the suite. Particularly pleasing is Wright's Dance of the Hours, where his talent for harmonious groupings is well displayed.

Wright's only miscalculation as producer has been to allow the character of Coppelius to sit too lightly on his story. The mad doctor is supposed to be the repository for all the dark forces within the ballet. He has more than a little in common with Dr Frankenstein: a man who would stop at nothing — including taking the life out of Franz — in order to turn his beloved mechanical doll Coppélia into flesh and blood.

The superstitions of the villagers attest to Coppelius's sinister power, but as played here by John Auld the old man trips timidly across the stage, eccentric and harmless, lonely and ridiculous. When Wright gives the final moments to Coppelius — a neat twist which sees his mechanical doll come to life after all — it comes too late to redeem the caricature.

The first-night cast was led by Sandra Madgwick, a lively and confident Swanilda, although there is a certain constraint to her movements that is at odds with her character's impetuosity. Sergiu Pobereznic has a handsome physique but needs to make Franz a more convincing lover.

The secret of the ballet's durability lies in the Delibes score, filled with sweet melodies, literal incident and humorous orchestral colouring. It was well-played by the Royal Ballet Sinfonia under conductor Paul Murphy.

DEE CONWAY



Sandra Madgwick as a lively Swanilda with John Auld as an eccentric and harmless Coppelius, in *Coppélia* at the Birmingham Hippodrome

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ROCK: Still ill — and sounding healthier than ever

Three smart boys grow up

Beastie Boys
Brixton Academy

EIGHT years ago, when New York's three Beastie Boys were outrage personified, one wondered what kind of future beckoned for the rap brats. However fresh their combination of fast rhymes and heavy metal breakbeat, Adrock, MCA and Mike D (known to their mums as Adam Horowitz, Adam Yauch and Mike Diamond) had a fixation about beer and girls and a phallic anxiety that was pure juvenilia. One expected that the band would either grow up or blow up.

The former happened. New sensibilities pervade their latest album *Ill Communication*. The crotch-fumbling has vanished, to be replaced with rhymes about (gasp!) respecting women and, now that Yauch has embraced Buddhism, the plight of Tibet. And Diamond has helped to launch a quietly successful clothes label, X-tra Large, aimed at the skateboard market.

This explains the scores of board riders circling the Academy and, perhaps, checking their wobbly vehicles into the cloakroom. Tickets for the Beastie's short British tour sold out months ago, and the atmosphere inside the theatre was one of boisterous anticipation. Some credit for this was due to the support band. The Jon Spencer Blues Explosion (three men, two guitars, drums and a shortwave radio) delivered a manically possessed, mutated blues that seemed perfect for the occasion.

When DJ Hurricane's rumbling bass lines signalled the arrival of the evening's main contenders, there was a near-stampede. Bounding on to the stage, sporting khakis and cropped hair, the Beasties were irrepressible. Ten years of performing together have resulted in a perfect timing of the curving rhymes and responses, tossed from one band member to another. One suspects, on songs like *Time To Get Ill*, *Alright Hear This* and *Pass The Mic*, a telepathic communication.

With additional percussion from Eric Bobo and Awol and keyboard player Money Mark, the musical emphasis has moved away from the DJ's *scratched breakbeat towards a* lean, muscular sound where nothing is superfluous. This was most evident in the rhythmic blur of the hardcore sections, and typified by *Sabotage*. Such primal velocity appealed to the numerous crowd-surfers riding about on the hands (and tolerance) of the audience, although the funky rapping of the relatively slower, jazzier sections proved to be the most interesting. Still kids at heart, no doubt, but the Boys have come of age.

LOUISE GRAY

JAZZ: Thirty years of charming eccentricity

Notes for the whole story

Carla Bley
Queen Elizabeth Hall

IT WAS presumably not intentional, but by taking the stage directly after Ivor Cutler, a man for whom the tag "eccentric" seems pitifully inadequate, Carla Bley managed to appear relatively conventional, almost staid. Even her tune titles — *Sex With Birds*, *Wrong Key Donkey*, *Chicken* — seemed like models of seriousness and normality compared with Cutler's enjoyable but deeply odd tales concerning, say, a man who attracted crowds by breaking the arms of random passers-by on a bridge, or a boy who took root in his own garden.

Announcing that she, bassist Steve Swallow and saxophonist Andy Sheppard would be playing "songs written over the past 30 years", Bley began the trio performance with their recent album's opener, *Real Life Hits*. After a Monkish piano introduction full of strange melodic twists, this 1980s composition settled into a soaring soprano saxophone improvisation over a repeated bass pattern, Sheppard embellishing his clear, piping solo with beautifully articulated flurries, and the trio as a whole setting a standard of relaxed cohesion for the concert.

A series of Bley favourites followed. *Ups and Downs*, featured on the album *Duets* she made with Swallow in 1988, drew a typically robust response from Sheppard, his attractively foggy tenor racing in double-time passages packed with sudden yelps and his trademark bleary honks over Swallow's deft bass. Bley took one of her slow, lingering piano solos on the tune, picking out notes with all the exaggerated care of someone following a path of submerged stepping stones across a stream, and setting the tone perfectly for the singing bass solo that succeeded it.

A highlight was Bley's arrangement of Thelonious Monk's haunting *Misterioso*. She is on record as admiring both Monk and Miles Davis as "people who had only a few notes and chose them well", and her spare but cogent piano style as she negotiated Monk's tricky melody over Swallow's subtle bass counterpoint demonstrated just how thoroughly she has absorbed the late jazz masters' lessons.

If Bley created the musical mood which permeated the concert, it was Swallow — rock-solid, deliberate but always subtly moving things along — who was the heart of the trio, and in Sheppard, who has been playing with Bley's big band since the late 1980s, she has found a soloist of world class.

CHRIS PARKER

ENTERTAINMENTS

CINEMAS

CURZON PHOENIX Phoenix St. Off Charing Cross Rd. 0171-369 1721 (no bkg fee) VANYA ON 42ND STREET (U) Progs at 12.45 (not Sun), 3.15, 5.45, 8.15. LAST WEEK From Fri LA REINE MARGOT (18)

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SADLER'S WELLS 0171 713 6000 ARC DANCE COMPANY "the entire company is superb" Guardian. Orleo/Saints & Shadows:8 & 11 March Othello/Saints & Shadows:9 & 10 March. Eves 8pm Tickets from £5

CABARET

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THEATRES

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ALBERY WC2 BO 0171 369 1730 CC 0171 344 4444 (no bkg fee) RIK MAYALL SIMON WARD "Rik Mayall...gives a brilliant performance" S.Tel in "SIMON GRAY'S witty, touching and thoroughly humane new play" Daily Express. CELL MATES. Eves 8pm Mats Wed 3pm Sat 5pm

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GIELGUD 0171 494 5065/344 4444 Rupert Graves Rachel Weisz Marcus D'Amico & Nicholas Clay in NOEL COWARD'S DESIGN FOR LIVING Dir by SEAN MATHIAS "TRIUMPHANT - ANOTHER CULT WEST END HIT IS BORN" D.Mail. Eves 7.45, Thur & Sat Mat 3pm

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Graveney represents best way forward for England



Graveney: in touch with modern game

Alan Lee finds that the main candidates for one of the most influential jobs in cricket are generations apart

If the decision-makers of county cricket act responsibly and progressively, an assumption that can never be made lightly, David Graveney will tomorrow become one of the most influential men in the game — an England selector of the desired age and wisdom as well as the eyes, ears and voice of the nation's professional players.

He is halfway there already. The game's workforce placed its faith in Graveney by electing him the first general secretary of the Cricketers' Association. Now, the delegates to the spring meeting of the Test and County Cricket Board (TCCB) must consider him for a post which could shift significantly the balance of power within the England team.

There are four nominations for the two re-electable places on the selection panel. Fred Titmus seems assured of retention and Jack Simmons is an also-ran. This leaves one job between Graveney and Brian Bolus. It is a choice between generations, a choice between a man who knows almost every player in the country personally and has their respect, and another who betrayed his remoteness from the modern game more than once last year.

Bolus won his seat, 12 months ago, primarily because he and Titmus were the stated preferences of Raymond Illingworth, the then new chairman of selectors. They have since ensured that Illingworth has a majority on contested decisions, a fact seldom seen to have been put to practical effect but a perceived restraint on Michael Atherton, the captain, and Keith Fletcher, the team manager.

Atherton believes that there must be a younger presence in selection to help represent his vision of a team for the future. He spoke informally to various players, including Graham Gooch and Mark Nicholas, the Hampshire captain. However, the feeling persists that the view of the active player is necessarily narrow. Graveney, 42 and retired only six months, is the flagbearer for youth and his election would be far more than cosmetic concession.

Bolus is scarcely known by the majority of players, an ignorance which may be mutual. An approachable and amusing man, his credibility is short where it most matters and not enhanced by his prolific after-dinner speaking act which depends greatly on him laughing uproariously at his own jokes.

Last summer, he made no secret of his role in life. "I'm only here to carry Raymond's coat," he would chortle on his regular visits to county press boxes. It was indiscreet and unhelpful to confess to the widely assumed and his energetic canvassing in recent days ought not to earn him a second year.

Graveney was one of the rejected nominees last year, but things are different now. Illingworth's star is not so much in the ascendant, for one thing. The system needs a shake and Graveney, now that he has stopped playing, is capable of being an invaluable mediator between those closest to the day-to-day running of the side and the wise old men. Certainly, his day job with the Cricketers' Association is no handicap, much more a positive boon.

"I expect to be going around the county grounds every day of the week as a matter of course," he said. "I am very conscious that the main duty of my job is to defend the rights of the players. I see no problem in combining that with a selection role, but, if elected, I would expect to spend more time on dressing-room balconies than in committee rooms."

During his 22-year playing career with Gloucestershire, Somerset and Durham, Graveney made few enemies. His involvement in the last of the rebel tours to South Africa, in 1990, caused surprise, but was an indication of a mind less beholden to the establishment than is often assumed. He is obliged to confirm the impression now, as he fronts the players' case for improved pay and conditions, but his arguments are not designed to further the cosy complacency within the county game. "We breed cricketers who are very comfortable in their lifestyle but have nil ambition," he said. "To be fair to them, we have to make some tough decisions and weed out those who are simply clogging up the system.

"County playing staffs are generally too large — 25 and 26 is plain crazy. Clubs employ so many because they don't know if they can play and they are scared they will go elsewhere. We can attack this through the area of wages. If counties do not wish to have a higher wage bill, they will have to reduce their staffs. Fewer players would then get greater rewards and have to work harder for them."

Such solid logic, lucidly expressed, has been too rare in our self-centred domestic game. Graveney is also militant about the deplorable standard of practice facilities in England and about the primitive pension and insurance schemes in existence. "Do you know, if David Lawrence had suffered the knee injury which ended his career while playing for his club, rather than for England, he would have received only about £7,000," he said. "That can't be right."

This, and other inequities, are presently being tackled by Graveney, Alan Fordham and Matthew Fleming, a vibrant players' delegation on a liaison committee with the TCCB. "Progress is slow," Graveney said, "but we are still talking and I feel the door is always open to me at Lord's."

Another door, that of the high-profile and highly-tried panel under Illingworth, could and should be open to Graveney after the two-day meeting which begins at Lord's this morning.

Australia discuss players' contracts plan

Scotland ride luck and advance on united front

BY DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

WHILE the Ireland selectors wring their hands with woe at the bottom of rugby union's five nations' championship, Scotland, with a very similar playing base, go forward to challenge England for the title at Twickenham on March 18. It is a distinction that owes much to the direction that successive team managements have put on the game in Scotland and to a hard core of quality players over the past decade.

Jim Telfer, the former captain and coach and now the Scottish Rugby Union's director of rugby, emphasises the difference in fortunes. "We maintain that Ireland have more good young players than we do," he said yesterday. "We have seen their A and under-21 teams and we reckon they have the talent."

Which begs the question, where does it go? Has it been progressive for Ireland to introduce young players like David Corkery, Keith Woods and Niall Hogan to the championship and then drop them after one or two games? Has the relationship between players and management always been healthy?

In contrast, Telfer insists that, even in bad times, Scotland have retained a united front. "It is true to say that when our better players — Gavin Hastings, Craig Chalmers, Kenny Milne — are playing well, they're a little better than Ireland's top players," Telfer said. It has been critical to Scotland's fortunes that these players have, since Christmas, hit the top of their form and have enjoyed the rub of the green that should be Ireland's, but so clearly has not been this season.

"We made ten changes after the game with South Africa," Telfer said. "It could have been 15, but the five who didn't change took a good look at themselves and realised they were lucky to be there. Others may have thought they were giving their all for Scotland, but, unintentionally, had grown used to being in the side and were not.

"A little bit of luck here and there has made a big difference. Ireland played very well against us and deserved to be ahead, but didn't kick their goals. We had two home games at the start of the year, which helped, and, in France, where we have generally played pretty well, we got the scores at the right time. They managed three cracking tries against us, but Gavin kicked a long penalty and his try right at the end was just too much for France.

"Yet we are leaking too many tries, which isn't the form of a team that is impregnable. If we play against England like we did against Wales last Saturday, we will be beaten. We have changed our game tactically this season, we have simplified the plan and tried to play a bit more expansively through the forwards. Now, we will have to change again."

While the Scotland technical staff enjoy so substantial an upturn in fortunes, their administrators have assembled in Bristol with their opposite numbers from across the world for the series of committee meetings that precede the council meeting of the International Rugby Football Board this weekend.

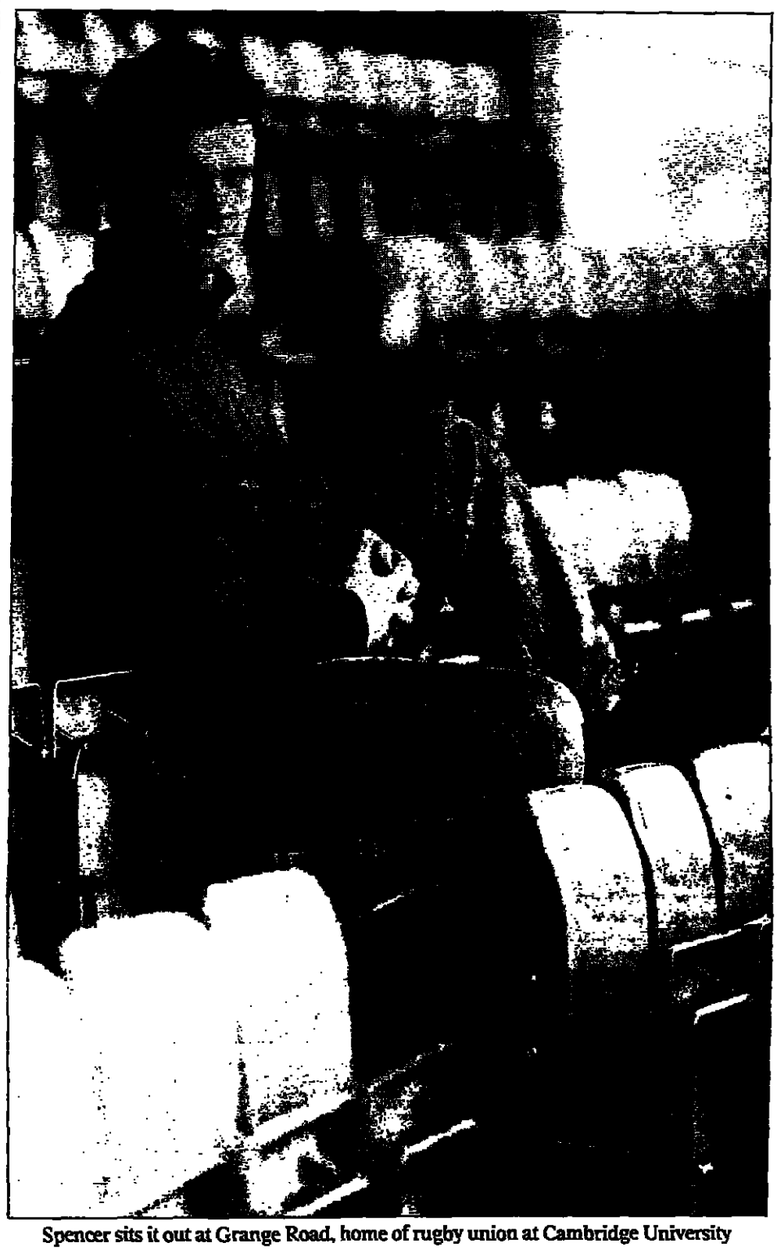
Australia's representatives will bear with them details of their union's proposed players' contracts, to which Bob Dwyer, the coach, assumes he will be party. "The coach works under exactly the same rules as the players concerning professionalism," Dwyer said in Sydney yesterday. "People off the field who are responsible to the team are the people sponsors wish to expose in support of their product.

"I would assume those people are rewarded in a similar fashion [to the players]. There are probably about ten or so players that the sponsors look for all the time and one coach — me." A maximum of 30 players are due to be placed under contract by the Australian Rugby Union, with the details to be finalised by the end of this month.

Horan returns to fray

TIM HORAN'S hopes of playing for Australia in the World Cup this summer took a tentative step forward when he played in an obscure seven-a-side tournament in Queensland over the weekend (Greg Campbell writes). It was his first match play since last May, when he damaged his right knee severely during the final of the Super 10 tournament in Durban.

Horan, generally acknowledged as one of the world's best centres, is aiming to play for a Queensland XV against the Argentinians on April 25, in time to justify selection for the World Cup party, which will be announced on May 1. Since the injury, Horan, 24 and capped 33 times, has undergone a series of operations and daily physiotherapy to rebuild the knee.



Spencer sits it out at Grange Road, home of rugby union at Cambridge University

Spencer pays heavily for crossing rugby's fine line

Christopher Irvine on how a young player's aspirations fell foul of a rift between two codes

It is three months since Adrian Spencer, naturally gifted rugby player and third-year undergraduate at Cambridge, stepped out at Twickenham and into the crossfire of the 100-year war between rugby union and rugby league.

For Spencer, the 23 minutes he played as a replacement against Oxford in the University match last December were his last in union before he became both pariah and *cause célèbre*. He was banned for 12 months once the Rugby Football Union (RFU) had its attention drawn, by the Rugby Football League (RFL), to five (unpaid) professional rugby league appearances by Spencer, 21, for London Broncos (né Crusaders) in 1993.

Between the scandalised die-hards at Twickenham and the martyr-seekers at Chapeltown Road, Spencer was hung out to dry. Today, Spencer will again take to a union pitch at Old Deer Park, the home of London Welsh, quite legitimately as player-coach of Cambridge in the fifteenth annual league University match.

Having been shopped by league and shot at by union, he sports an admirable line in diplomacy. "All I want to do is play both sports for my university," he said. "Have I done anything dreadfully wrong?"

By playing for the Crusaders, Spencer "professionalised" himself in the definition of the International Rugby Football Board (IRFB). Moreover, his case has again exposed the flimsiness of the "free gangway" between the sports at amateur level. The dictionary definition of sporting professional talks of playing for money; Spencer, remember, did not receive a penny.

Union's insistence that the gangway applies only to players who are tainted by professionalism — Spencer's crime was merely to play alongside paid players — becomes almost daily more ridiculous amid the confessional maelstrom of union players and remuneration.

Spencer, of St John's College, hails from Warrington. League was and remains his favourite sport. He represented the Great Britain under-19 amateur side, and before starting his chemical engineering degree, played his first union game for Liverpool St Helens Colts.

> 'I just want to play both for Cambridge. Is that so wrong?'

At Cambridge he played 18 months of rugby union; he made only half a dozen appearances for the Blues team [first XV] at inside centre before gaining a place on the replacements' bench for the University match. As the leading light of Cambridge's rugby league side at stand-off half, he sufficiently impressed Tony Gordon, then coach of London Crusaders, to be offered "amateur" forms.

Spencer played three games for London in the 1992-93 season and two more in 1993-94. "I was simply loving it.

"There was no money, but when Tony began faxing through a contract, I would have signed it if it wasn't for my father having his head screwed on and reminding me that I had a degree to complete," Spencer said.

Apart from a wish at some point to play professional rugby league, Spencer thought no more of it. "Playing at Twickenham was a great thrill. Nobody takes to the pitch having read the RFU handbook. I wrote to them pleading ignorance of the laws. They said that was no justification for breaking them," he said.

Questions to ministers and an early-day motion signed by more than 100 MPs were gratifying, but as the small fish caught in the net of bigotry, Spencer's simple pleading carries more weight. "It's petty, inbred almost in the people who look after the two sides. I'm hoping, of course, but is it ever going to change?"

Debate at the annual meeting of the IRFB in Bristol next week will focus on permitting rugby league players to play union again after an agreed stand-down period. It has historic implications, but for the likes of Spencer, suspensions will probably still apply.

Any rugby lover would be advised simply to turn up at Richmond this afternoon and catch a fine young player doing what he enjoys best, no matter the code.

Sheffield maintain sequence of success

BY NORMAN DE MESQUITA

SHEFFIELD Steelers and Nottingham Panthers have virtually identical records in the premier division of ice hockey's British League and it seems likely that their meeting in Nottingham on the final Saturday of the regular season will determine who wins the title.

The Steelers beat Bracknell Bees 7-3 for their eleventh successive win, but it was not as easy as the score might suggest. The Bees defended bravely for two periods and did not fall behind until less than two minutes before the second interval.

The Panthers, beaten by Fife Flyers on Saturday, proved far too strong for Whitley Warriors on Sunday. The Warriors have now lost ten matches in a row and 21 of their last 24.

In contrast, the Flyers seem to have found the right formula at last with the arrival of Laurie Boschman, a player with 14 years' experience of the National Hockey League in North America. Wins over the Panthers and Durham Wasps enabled the Flyers to move ahead of Humberside Hawks into seventh place and, although it is too late for them to challenge for the premier division title, they will be very dangerous when the play-offs start.

The most intense competition during the final three weeks of the regular season will be at the top of the first division for the coveted promotion play-off positions. Trafford Metros, having gained a valuable away point against Slough Jets, surprisingly dropped one at home to Medway Bears, which makes Swindon Wildcats narrow favourites for the vital fourth place.

RESULTS: British League: Premier division: Bracknell 3 Sheffield 7; Fife 7 Durham 4; Humberside 7 Edinburgh 7; Peterborough 7 Cardiff 12, Whitley Bay 4 Nottingham 10. First division: Blackburn 18 Dumfries 2; Chelmsford 10 Swindon 15; Lee Valley 3 Slough 9; Paisley 8 Guildford 6; Trafford 5 Medway 5.

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SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

Dealer South — **Love all**

	♠A98 ♥42 ♦AQJ76 ♣K32	
♠- ♥AKQ976 ♦9832 ♣1076	N W E S	♠QJ74 ♥J5 ♦105 ♣QJ984
	♠K106532 ♥1083 ♦K4 ♣A5	

S	W	N	E
1♠	2♥	3♦	Pass
3♠	Pass	4♠	All pass

Contract: Four Spades by South. Lead: ace of hearts

BY ROBERT SHEEHAN
BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

West leads three top hearts, dummy trumping the third round with the eight. What should East do?

Most players would overruff without giving the matter a second thought. But study the effect of discarding — you have kept your trump holding intact, and the declaring side has weakened theirs.

You make two trump tricks. In a funny sort of way, it is as though the declarer has played a round of trumps to which you do not have to follow — overruff and you have followed suit, and just get your natural trump trick, discard and you have kept a spare small trump to protect your higher trumps.

Picking up extra tricks by not overuffing comes in many forms. I saw this layout in trumps the other day :

K 10
void — J73
9654

The declarer ruffed a side suit with dummy's ten. If East overruffs, he comes to only one trump trick. By discarding, he makes two trump tricks.

☐ The 55th annual university match between Oxford and Cambridge was played at the Young Chelsea Bridge Club over the weekend. Oxford won by 241 IMP's to 211. The score in the series is now Cambridge 28 wins, Oxford 26 wins, with one match tied.

KEENE on CHESS

BY RAYMOND KEENE
CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Linares

After four rounds of the tournament in Linares, Spain, the strongest annual chess competition in the world, two relative outsiders have surged into an early lead. Grandmaster Veselin Topalov, of Bulgaria, and Grandmaster Alexander Beliavsky, of Ukraine, each has 3.5 points.

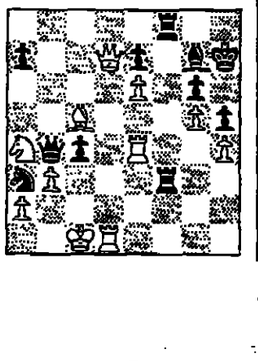
Nigel Short, of Great Britain, started slowly, losing to both joint-leaders. However, in the fourth round, he returned to form to win an efficient tactical battle against the former Yugoslav Grandmaster, Ljubomir Ljubojevic.

White: Nigel Short
Black: Ljubomir Ljubojevic
Linares, March 1995

Sicilian Defence

1	e4	c5
2	Nf3	e6
3	d4	cxd4
4	Nxd4	Nc6
5	Nc3	Qc7
6	Be2	a6
7	0-0	Nf6
8	Kh1	b5
9	Nxc6	dxc6
10	f4	b4
11	e5	bxc3
12	exd6	cxd6
13	Qe1	Qa5
14	bxc3	Rb8
15	Bd2	Rb2
16	Bd3	Rxe2
17	Rb1	Qc7
18	c4	h5
19	Bc3	Rh6
20	Qh4	Be7
21	f5	e5
22	c5	Ra3
23	Qb4	Rxc3
24	Qxc3	Qa7
25	Rb6	Bd8
26	Rb3	Bc7
27	Be4	Qa8
28	Qf3	Kf8
29	Bxc6	Qa7
30	Qd5	Kg7
31	Be8	Black resigns

Diagram of final position



a b c d e f g h

Pan Pacific

The Mindscape international tournament in San Francisco has been won by the veteran Viktor Korchnoi, 63. The oldest player in the competition by ten years or more, Korchnoi dominated the event, conceding not a single defeat.

In the final round, he drew with London Grandmaster, Dr John Nunn, thus assuring himself of the first prize. Korchnoi scored eight points out of 11; Boris Gulko, of the United States, and John Nunn came equal second with 7.5.

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

PACU
a. A vegetarian fish
b. An Amerindian language
c. A Samoan war dance

PREDACIOUS
a. Pompous
b. Premature
c. Preying upon

ROSELLA
a. A parakeet
b. A miniature rose-bush
c. A nun's coif

OSBORNITE
a. An invalid sailor
b. A type of biscuit
c. A meteor mineral

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

This position is from the game Gazik - Chernin, Budapest 1993. Here Black continued with 1 ... Rc3+ and went on to win the game. However, he missed a chance to force a checkmate in four moves. Can you see what Grandmaster Chernin overlooked?

Solution: page 42

Victory fuels hope for Masters

Faldo's gripping revival built on putting prowess

BY JOHN HOPKINS, GOLF CORRESPONDENT

THE surprise about Nick Faldo's victory at the Doral-Ryder Open in Miami on Sunday was not that he had won on the US PGA Tour because, as the world's No 3 golfer, he is clearly capable of doing that. The surprise was that he had won so soon.

It was only Faldo's fifth event of the year in the United States — he had missed the cut in his previous event — and it came only a couple of months after he had set himself up in a temporary home at Lake Nona, Orlando.

Faldo did that to be near David Leadbetter, his coach, who has a teaching studio at Lake Nona, while making a serious attempt at the American circuit, where he thought the courses would be better prepared than in Europe and *the greens more consistent.* He did not say as much, but he thought he needed to do something to reignite his career which, in terms of winning major championships, had begun to falter.

Faldo has not won a major *championship since the 1992* Open Championship at Muirfield and since then had watched Nick Price nip past him with victories in the 1992 and 1994 US PGA Championships as well as in the thrilling Open last year at Turnberry. *Furthermore,* Faldo was only too aware that José Maria Olazábal's success in the Masters and the US Open victory by Ernie Els meant that a new generation of strong young men who were under 30 had arisen. Faldo, 37, had to do something to put them down.

There is a certain irony in that the first step he has taken towards that aim, a one-stroke win over Peter Jacobsen and Greg Norman, was achieved by good putting, which he holds to be the weakest part of his game. It was to improve his putting that Faldo went west and it was to improve his putting that he started placing his left hand below his right.

Yet, last week, it was the other end of his game that was weak. He was accurate enough on the putting surfaces to notch up 22 birdies in his four rounds. In the third round on Saturday, his putting had to be seen to be believed. He holed five putts of between 25 and 30 feet and he was moved to remark drily afterwards: "It's nice when they go in like that. It will be nice if I can do that two days in a row."

His putting in the fourth round was not of the same order but it was good enough. It was his driving that was wild, never more so than on *the 72nd hole, where he hit his* tee shot into a lake.

The victory, his first in the US since the 1990 Masters, should give Faldo precisely the sort of boost in confidence he needs with the Masters only five weeks away. It suggests *that his game is in better order* than it has been at a comparable time of any year recently.

In 1991, for example, bad scheduling as far as the number of tournaments he had entered, and bad weather in those he did play, meant that he went into the Masters with fewer than one dozen competitive rounds in the US behind him. He was palpably rusty and it showed.

"I am very pleased and surprised," Faldo said on Sunday. "This is exactly what I have been working for and now I've done it. I wasn't sure how I was going to get on over here. This has taken a lot of the pressure off me."

So, Faldo has once again proved himself right in determining his course of action. Those who underestimate him or disagree with any action he takes do so at their peril. In *matters to do with Nick Faldo,* Nick Faldo generally knows best.

☐ The loss of a leading sponsor cast a shadow over the annual meeting of the Golf Foundation yesterday. Vauxhall had raised £170,000 for the Foundation in seven years of staging the Golf Club Team Classic, and the Foundation's chairman, Findlay Picken, said its withdrawal "represents a major blow".

He explained: "Unless an early replacement can be found the effect on our income is only too apparent." A surplus of £30,174 from ordinary activities, exceptional income of £82,632 and the abolition of the waiting-list for coaching were among the positive aspects of the year under review. But Picken said: "The continuing underlying financial uncertainties leave no room for complacency."

WORLD RANKINGS

1, N Price (Zim) 22.42pts; 2, G Norman (Aus) 20.17; 3, N Faldo (Eng) 17.67; 4, E Els (SA) 15.02; 5, J Olazabal (Sp) 14.91; 6, B Langer (Ger) 14.62; 7, F Couples (US) 14.04; 8, C Montgomerie (Scot) 12.67; 9, M Ozaki (Japan) 11.39; 10, C Pavin (US) 11.01. Other British positions: 16, I Woosnam (Wales) 8.47; 37, S Torrance (Scot) 5.26; 41, B Lane (Eng) 5.24; 45, D Gilford (Eng) 5.08; 54, M Roe (Eng) 4.58; 60, M James (Eng) 4.26; 66, G Brand Jr (Scot) 4.05; 72, D Clarke (N Ire) 3.73; 78, H Clark (Eng) 3.22; 84, P Baker (Eng) 3.03; 93, A Lyle (Scot) 2.84; 98, C Mason (Eng) 2.79

COLIN BRALEY



Faldo lines up the putt on the last green that secured his triumph in Miami

SPORT IN BRIEF

Souness to sue over transfer allegations

GRAEME SOUNESS, the former manager of Liverpool, has started a libel action for damages over reports in the *Today* newspaper about the alleged financial details in the transfer of a Danish international footballer to Anfield (John Goodbody writes). Solicitors for Souness said that the allegations about the deal, involving Torben Piechnik, the former Danish international defender, were "completely untrue".

Today claimed yesterday that Souness was to be interviewed by the police, the Premier League and the Inland Revenue over a missing £300,000 in the transfer of Piechnik from Copenhagen FC in September 1992.

☐ *Cardiff City supporters face possible arrest if they turn up* for the match tonight with Swansea City, who have banned Cardiff supporters because of fears of violence.

Price repeats success

BOWLS: Lorraine Woodley and Mary Price, of the Desborough club at Maidenhead, won the English women's national indoor pairs championship at Northampton yesterday, beating Mary London and Ann Waters of Angel, Tonbridge, 26-5 (Gordon Allan writes). It is Price's second triumph in three years. In 1993, she won with Ann Erridge, but she resumed her partnership with Woodley, a former national singles champion outdoors, on Erridge's departure to live in Devon. They were too strong and resourceful for the Tonbridge pair, doggedly though London played at lead.

Parore misses century

CRICKET: Adam Parore failed to secure his second Test century of the summer, but his 89 was enough to guide New Zealand past South Africa's first innings total by the end of play yesterday in Auckland. At the close on the third day, New Zealand were 316 for seven, giving them a lead of 22. It was Parore's third Test fifty, following his maiden century *against West Indies at Christchurch* last month. In the morning session, the New Zealand innings threatened to disintegrate, but Parore pulled things around, figuring in a stand of 82 with his captain, Ken Rutherford.

Wales plan tour

RUGBY LEAGUE: *After their victory in the John Smith's* European championship, Wales are looking at a short tour of Australia this summer in preparation for the World Cup in England and Wales in October. Mike Nicholas, the Wales manager, said: "We need to sustain the momentum built up. We have now to be treated as a threat in the World Cup, with France and Western Samoa in our group."

Two better than one

CRICKET: Plans were unveiled yesterday for a national club league, starting in 1996, in which teams will play two-day matches rather than the traditional one-day variety. There are expected to be eight regional leagues of 12 teams, with the winners going forward to a national knockout. The competition is modelled on the Australian system under which clubs play grade matches over successive weekends.

Brooking on panel

NATIONAL LOTTERY: Trevor Brooking, the former England footballer, Adrian Moorhouse, the 1988 Olympic 100 metres breaststroke champion, and Judy Simpson, the former Commonwealth Games heptathlon gold medal-winner, are among the 13 members of the Lottery Awards Panel, which was named yesterday. The panel will allocate a projected £1.6 billion to sport in the next five years.

Aberdeen's relegation fight could cost players dear

BY KEVIN MCCARRA

ABERDEEN may be embroiled in a struggle against relegation, but yesterday the players at least demonstrated that they are not mercenaries. A deputation met the caretaker manager, Roy Aitken, at Pittodrie to inform him that the team had decided to forgo all bonuses until the end of the season.

"They want to prove," Aitken said, "that finance does not enter into it. The players realise that, for Aberdeen, everything depends on preserving our status." According to reports at the weekend, the Aberdeen board had been prepared to pay £5,000 a man if the team avoided relegation. Any such policy, however, would have smacked of rewarding mediocrity. *The players' decision to* deny themselves any sort of win bonus could greatly reduce their earnings, with losses increasing if victories mount up. The policy may assuage the feelings of supporters because it demonstrates the players share their recognition of the severity of the club's position.

As it is, the squad is prepared to leave it to the board to decide if any payment is due once the season is over. Cynics may be inclined to point out that the players have, in effect, been spurning win bonuses all season. A 2-0 defeat by Celtic on Sunday left them with only six League victories from their 27 matches.

To add to Aitken's problems, Ray McKinnon, the midfield player, will be forced to sit out three of the club's last nine matches after being booked on Sunday for dissent. The yellow card was his eleventh of the season — he had already served a two-match suspension in October — and took his disciplinary tally above the 16-point threshold. He will be banned for three games from March 19, missing *fixtures against Kilmarnock, Rang*ers and Celtic.

Aberdeen are in second-bottom place and, should they remain there, would have to secure their premier division future with a play-off against the first division runners-up, Falkirk, who are immediately above the Pittodrie club in the table, have a three-point advantage over Aberdeen and play their game in hand at Motherwell this evening.

Should Partick Thistle win their next two matches, at home against Dundee United tonight and Aberdeen, themselves, on Saturday, they will push Aitken's team to the very foot of the premier division. Calculating the permutations, though, would be a waste of the manager's energies. Aitken needs instead to explore the enigma of a reputable squad that has become addicted to mediocrity.

FOR THE RECORD

ATHLETICS

LOS ANGELES MARATHON: 1, R Vera (Ec) 2hr 11min 39sec; 2, R Kempainen (US) 2.11.58. Women: N Prasad (New Caledonia) 2.29.50

BUCHAREST: International meeting: *Women's hammer:* M Melinte (Rom) 66.86m (world record).

BADMINTON

WIMBLEDON: English national under-18 championships: Finals: Boys: Singles: M Constable (Warwickshire) bt M Edge (Lancs) 15-2, 15-1. Doubles: *A Cotsell (Glouc)* and N Robertson (Notts) bt A Clark (Notts) and I Sullivan (Glouc) 15-13, 15-11. Girls: Singles: D Kellogg (Derbyshire) bt A Goodall (Surrey) 11-0, 11-8. Doubles: Kellogg and J Wright (Lancs) bt E Miles (Cheshire) and G Emms (Herts) 15-4, 15-10. Mixed doubles: Robertson and Emma bt Sullivan and Wright 15-7, 15-4

BASKETBALL

BUDWEISER LEAGUE: Chester Jets 88 (Johnson 27, Gardner 24, Ogley 10, Perry 10) Derby Bucks 84 (Gardiner 23, Bellis 20, Slemon 15).

MEN'S NATIONAL CUP: Final: Sheffield Sharks 89 (Huggins 29, Cauthorn 21, Finch 15) Thames Valley Tigers 66 (Bucknall 24, Holley 20, Scantlebury 11)

MEN'S NATIONAL TROPHY: Final: Crystal Palace 57 (Ricketts 16, R Scantlebury 15) Ware Rebels 47 (Darlow 13). Junior Trophy: Final: Birmingham 88 London 83.

WOMEN'S NATIONAL CUP: Final: Birmingham Quality Cats 50 (Smith 21, Gordon 11, Drummond 7) Sheffield Hatters 64 (Sharp 20, Castle 20, Jamieson 12).

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Miami 103 Washington 90, New Jersey 99 Milwaukee 94; San Antonio 124 Houston 103; Phoenix 122 Golden State 112; Orlando 113 Atlanta 111 (OT); Sacramento 88 Charlotte 80; LA Lakers 105 Minnesota 102.

Eastern Conference

Atlantic division	W	L	Pct	GB
Orlando	45	14	.763	—
New York	37	19	.661	6½
Boston	24	33	.421	20
New Jersey	23	36	.390	22
Miami	22	35	.386	22
Philadelphia	17	41	.293	27½
Washington	15	42	.263	29
Central division				
Charlotte	37	22	.627	—
Indiana	34	23	.596	2
Cleveland	33	24	.579	3
Chicago	29	30	.492	8
Atlanta	28	30	.483	8½
Detroit	22	35	.386	14
Milwaukee	22	37	.373	15

Western Conference

Midwest division	W	L	Pct	GB
Utah	42	16	.724	—
San Antonio	39	16	.709	1½
Houston	35	23	.603	7
Denver	26	31	.456	15½
Dallas	22	33	.400	18½
Minnesota	16	42	.276	26
Pacific division				
Phoenix	45	14	.763	—
Seattle	38	17	.691	5
LA Lakers	36	20	.643	7½
Portland	30	25	.545	13
Sacramento	29	27	.518	14½
Golden State	16	40	.286	27½
LA Clippers	11	48	.186	34

BOWLS

NORTHAMPTON: English women's indoor championships: Pairs: Semi-finals: L Woodley (Desborough) and M Price *(Maidenhead)* bt *M Mallinson (Blackpool)* and J Jones (Borough) 26-12; M London and A Waters (Angel) (Tonbridge) bt P Pearce (Preston) and J Bowles (Brighton) 18-17 (after extra end). Two-wood triples: Semi-finals: Cumbria (J Wilson, P Corps, D Gowling) bt Bentham (J Surman, M Pye, G Smith) 22-4; Folkestone (J Smith, F Hodges, R Dunnachie) bt Cambridge Chesterton (J Marshall, S Sewell, P Wynn) 23-4. Champion of champions: Singles: Last 16: N Edwards (British Caledonia) bt M Insley (Ipswich) 21-17; D Hunt (Swinton) bt M Norgate (David Lloyd) 21-14; N Shaw (Thornaby) bt P Carr (Prince Arthur) 21-18; S Weller (Camberley) bt A Quick (Caradon) 21-12; J Bossey (Stevenage) bt D Woodley (Thamesdown) 21-17; A Hallett (Dorchester) bt C Duckworth (Towartands) 21-14; F Linberry (Worthing) bt J Thomas (Nottingham) 21-7; G Fitzgerald (Kettering) bt J Staples (Cambridge Park) 21-17.

BOXING

PRETORIA: International Boxing Federation junior-featherweight championship: Vuyani Bungu (SA) bt Mohammed Nurhuda *(Indo), pts.*

ATLANTIC CITY: World Boxing Association (WBA) light-middleweight championship: Pernell Whitaker (US) bt Julio Cesar Vasquez *(Arg), pts.* WBA welterweight championship: Ike Quartey (Ghana) ko Jung Oh Park (S Kor), 4th md.

VITROLLES, France, European light-heavyweight championship: Fabrice Tiozzo (Fr, holder) bt Noel Magee (Ire), rsc 4th md.

CYCLING

TOUR OF MURCIA: Fifth stage (111km time trial): 1, A Baffi (It) 12mn 59sec; 2, E *Breukink (Holl) at 16sec;* 3, M Fondriest (It) 20, 4, S González (Sp) 32; 5, A Garmendia (Sp) 53. Final overall positions: 1, Baffi 20hr 18mn 46sec; 2, Breukink at 33sec; 3, *Fondriest* 43, 4, *Garmendia* 56; 5, E van Hooydonk (Holl) 58

TIME-TRIALS: Winners: Border City Wheelers (34m): P Curran (Optimum Performance RT), 1hr 29mn 59sec. Halnault RC (50km): M Illingworth (Team Clean), 1.15.49 (event record). Team: Easterley RC, 4.09.29. Spalding CC (29.5m). B Harwood (Leo RC), 1.08.53. Circuit of Pendle (27.2m): D Ebbrell (Blackburn and District CTC), 1.08.52. Team: Pendle Forest CC, 3.36.03. Featherstone RC (25m): A Corbett (Optimum Performance RT), 57.22. Team: GS Metro, 2.06.49. Port Talbot Wheelers (two-up, 25m): J Phillips and J Holt (VC Phoenix), 57.06. Apollo RT (20m): M Whitehead (VC Deal), 51.24. Team: VC Deal, 2.40.17. Elizabethan CC (18m). D Willetts (Birchfield CC), 45.16 (course record). Team: Sabre, 2.28.21. Circuit of Hambledon (14.5m). M Marchant (GS Stella), 38.06. Team: GS Stella, 2.01.09. West London Combine (10m): J Stroud (Swan Velo), 23.27. CS Dynamo (two-up, 10m): A Lyons and L Dinham (Plymouth Corinthian), 22.50 Sutton Bank Classic (14m): D Cook (Middridge CRT), 38.15. Dursley RC (10m): R Prebble (Wembley RC), 20.38 (course and event record).Musselburgh RCC (three-up, 27m): Aberdeen Multisport (P Duncan, G McGarrity, A Watt), 1.05.53. Matlock CC (25m): M Pitchford (Donnington RC), 1.05.36. Hull Thursday RC (two-up, 24m): S Dawson and W Pendle (Optimum Performance RT), 53.45. Cardiff Ajax CC (10m): J Prechard and C Pritchard (Olympia Sport), 21.42 (equal).

CRICKET

Centenary Test match

New Zealand v South Africa

AUCKLAND (third second day of five; South Africa won toss): New Zealand lead South Africa by 22 runs with three first-innings wickets in hand

SOUTH AFRICA: First innings 294 (D J Cullinan 96, D J Nash 4-72)

NEW ZEALAND: First innings

B A Young c Richardson b Donald	74
D J Murray c Kirsten b Cronje	25
M D Crowe c Hudson b de Villiers	16
S P Fleming b Matthews	17
K R Rutherford c Richardson b Cronje	28
†A C Parore c Richardson b Donald	89
M N Hart low Matthews	20
G B Larsen not out	20
D N Patel not out	11
Extras (nb 2, w 1, lb 5)	8
Total *(7wkts)*	316

D J Nash and D K Morrison to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS, 1-86, 2-108, 3-137, 4-144, 5-226, 6-268, 7-303.

BOWLING: *Donald* 29-11-8-42; de Villiers 32-11-7-01, Matthews 32-11-8-62; Cronje 17-3-4-82; Kirsten 2-39-4-30.

Umpires: D Hair (Aus), S Dunn (NZ)

BRIDGETOWN, BARBADOS: One-day tour match (50 overs): Australia 330-7 (S Waugh 117 retired) Barbados 278

PALMERSTON NORTH, New Zealand: *Tour match (third day of the four):* Sri Lankans 257 (C Mendis 75) and 323-5 dec (A Gurusinha 83, D Samaraweera 78, A Ranatunga 107); New Zealand Academy XI 133 (Silva 5-25, M Muralidaran 4-45) and 110-4 (M Muralidaran 3-20).

BOMBAY: Masters Cup: West Indies 298 (C G Greenidge 113, A L Logie 59, I V A Richards 53; J E Emburey 3-33). England 135 (I V A Richards 3-9). West Indies won by 163 runs.

DARTS

DONCASTER: United Kingdom matchplay tournament: Final: A Wenmer (Eng) bt R *Harrington (Eng)* 6-4.

FOOTBALL

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: *First division:* Millwall 4 Swindon 1.

FA LUMBRO TROPHY: Fourth-round draw: Marine v Runcorn or Hyde United; Enfield or Merthyr Tydfil v Rushden and Diamonds; Ilkeston Town or Kidderminster Harriers v Altrincham, Macclesfield Town v Woking.

☐ Ties to be played on March 25.

GOLF

MIAMI: Doral Open: Leading final scores (United States unless stated): 273: N Faldo (GB) 67, 71, 65, 69. 274: P Jacobsen 68, 69, 64, 73; G Norman (Aus) 68, 68, 65, 73. 275: S Lunard 68, 68, 71, 68; S Ellington (Aus) 67, 72, 67, 69; *D Love III* 65, 69, 70, 71. 276: H Irwin 70, 70, 67, 69; W Austin 66, 71, 66, 71. 277: S Stricker 70, 68, 71, 68. 278: S Lowery 65, 72, 73, 68; M O'Meara 69, 72, 66, 71. 279: *M McCumber* 70, 71, 69, 69; M Bradley 70, 73, 67, 69; V Singh (Fiji) 70, 70, 67, 72; J Sluman 69, 67, 70, 73, F Allem (SA) 66, 71, 68, 74. 280: C Montgomerie (GB) 72, 68, 65, 75; *E Els* (SA) 74, 67, 70, 69; S Verplank 65, 76, 70, 69, R Floyd 72, 71, 68, 69; N Ozaki (Japan) 72, 71, 68, 69. J Haas 69, 69, 70, 72; D Duval 67, 72, 68, 73; L Clements 70, 70, 67, 73; D Hart 71, 67, 68, 74; W Glasson 68, 69, 70, 74. Other scores: 281: J Parnevik (Swe) 71, 66, 74, 70. 283: B Langer (Ger) 68, 71, 71, 72. 284: G Wale (NZ) 71, 71, 65, 77.

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Chicago 3 Anaheim 0; Edmonton 4 Detroit 2; Buffalo 4 Montreal 1, Boston 5 Hartford 2; Ottawa 3 NY Islanders 1, Philadelphia 6 Pittsburgh 2; Washington 4 NY Rangers 2; Winnipeg 3 Calgary 2; Dallas 2 St Louis 1.

UNIVERSITY MATCHES: Men: Oxford 8 Cambridge 4 Women: Oxford 5 Cambridge 2.

MOTOR RACING

MIAMI: IndyCar grand prix: 1, J Villeneuve (Can) Reynard Ford-Cosworth, 90 laps (average speed 82.801mph); 2, M Guggelmin (Br) Reynard Ford-Cosworth 90, 3, R Rahal (US) Lola Mercedes-Benz 90; 4, S Pruett (US) Lola Ford-Cosworth 90; 5, C Fittipaldi (Br) Reynard Ford-Cosworth 90, 6, R Boesel (Br) Lola Mercedes-Benz 90.

SKIING

ASPEN: World Cup: Men's downhill: 1, AJ Kitt (US) 1min 45.46sec; 2, A Aamlinger (Austria) 1.46.04, 3, L Kjus (Nor) 1.46.15. Leading downhill standings: 1, Aamlinger 418pts; 2, L Alphand (Fr) 402; 3, K Ghedina (It) 398. Leading overall standings 1, A Tomba (It) 1,050pts, 2, J Kosir (Slovakia) 700; 3, M Girardelli (Lux) 675.

SNOOKER

IRTHLINGBOROUGH, Northamptonshire: European League: K Doherty (Ire) bt J *Parrott (Eng)* 6-2; *J White (Eng) drew with R* O'Sullivan (Eng) 4-4.

TABLE TENNIS

KING'S LYNN: National championships: Men: Final: C Prean (Isle of Wight) bt Chen Xinhua (Yorkshire) 21-12, 21-18, 21-16. Women: Final: A Holt (Lancashire) bt A Gordon (Berkshire) 21-15, 21-13, 21-23, 14-21, 21-11.

TENNIS

DAVIS CUP: American Zone playoffs: Group A: Puerto Rico 3 Costa Rica 0. Group B: Barbados 3 Trinidad-Tobago 0; Dominican Republic 3 Bermuda 3; El Salvador 3 Jamaica 0.

*SCOTTSDALE, Arizona: Men's tour*nament: Final: J Courier (US) bt M Philippoussis (Aus) 7-6, 6-4.

ROTTERDAM: Men's Indoor tournament: Final: R Krajicek (Holl) bt P Haarhuis (Holl) 7-6, 6-4.

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico: Women's tournament: Final: *J Kruger (SA)* bt K Nagatsuka (Japan) 7-6, 6-3.

MEXICO CITY: Men's tournament: Final: T Muster (Austria) bt R Meligani (Br) 7-6, 7-5.

YACHTING

SAN DIEGO: America's Cup trials: Louis Vuitton Cup (challenger trials): Sydney 95 (S Fischer, Aus) bt Nippon (M Namba, Japan) 1min 22sec; Illoja de Espana (P Campos, Sp) bt France III (M Pajot, Fr) dismasted. Overall positions: 1, Team New Zealand (R Coutts, NZ) 55pts; 2, oneAustralia 43; 3, TAG Heuer Challenge (C Dickson) 39; 4, Nippon 23, 5, France III 15; 6, Illoja de Espana 14. 7, Sydney 95 13. Citizen Cup (defence trials): Mighty Mary (L Egnot) bt Stars & Stripes (D Conner) retired. Overall positions: equal 1, Young America (K Mahaney) and Stars & Stripes 32pts; 3, Mighty Mary 21.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated
** denotes all-ticket match*

FA Carling Premiership
* Wimbledon v Man Utd (7.45) .....

Endsleigh Insurance League
First division
Barnsley v Burnley (7.45) .....
Bristol City v Charlton (7.45) .....
Grimsby v Derby (7.45) .....
Luton v Port Vale (7.45) .....
Middlesbrough v Watford (7.45) .....
Oldham v Southend (7.45) .....
Sheffield Utd v Tranmere (7.45) .....

Second division
Blackpool v Crewe .....
Chester v Hull .....
Leyton Orient v Brighton (7.45) .....
Oxford Utd v Huddersfield (7.45) .....
Peterborough v Shrewsbury (7.45) .....
Plymouth v Birmingham (7.45) .....
Rotherham v Cambridge Utd .....
Stockport v Bristol Rovers .....
Swansea v Cardiff .....
Wrexham v Brentford .....
Wycombe v Bradford (7.45) .....
York v Bournemouth .....

Third division
Gillingham v Colchester (7.45) .....
Mansfield v Rochdale .....
Northampton v Bury (7.45) .....
Torquay v Scarborough .....
Walsall v Hartlepool (7.45) .....

Vauxhall Conference
Halifax v Macclesfield (7.45) .....

Bell's Scottish League
Premier division
Partick v Dundee Utd .....
Motherwell v Falkirk (7.45) .....

First division
Clydebank v Ayr .....

Second division
Greenock Morton v Clyde .....
Stenhousemuir v Berwick .....

Third division
East Stirling v Albion .....
Forfar v Montrose .....

Representative match
FAI National League v Irish League (at Richmond Park, Dublin, 8.0) .....

FA UMBRO TROPHY: Third round replay: Merthyr v Enfield.

UNIBOND LEAGUE: Premier division: Buxton v Matlock. First division: Warrington v Clitheroe. President's Cup: Second round: Morecambe v Albion.

DIADORA LEAGUE: Premier division: Aylesbury v Slough, Bishop's Stortford v Kingstonian (7.45), Hayes v Yeading, Hendon v Harrow, St Albans v Dulwich (7.45), *Wokingham v Walton and Hersham (7.45).* First division: Abingdon T v Dorking; Aldershot v Tooting and Mitcham, Berkhamsted v Bognor Regis, Billericay v Ruislip Manor; Heybridge v Newbury, Whyteleafe v Barking; Basingstoke v Leyton. Second division: Chesham v Brackhell, Edgware v Windsor and Eton, Egham v Chalfont St Peter; Hemel Hempstead v Hampton; Leatherhead v Witham, Maldon Vale v Thame; Saffron Walden v Hungerford, Ware v Banstead. Third division: Canvey Island v Feltham and Hounslow; Cove v Hornchurch; Epsom and Ewell v Southall, Harefield v Clapton; Hertford v Camberley, Kingsbury v Flackwell Heath; Carlsberg Cup: Fourth round: Staines v Molesey.

ESSEX SENIOR LEAGUE: Premier division: East Ham v Basildon.

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier division: Burton v Cambridge City; Crawley v Trowbridge; Gresley v Chesham. Southern division: Ashford v Weymouth, Bashley v Havant; Braintree v Witney; Fisher 93 v Baldock. Midland division: Armitage v Bridgnorth, Bedworth v Forest Green, King's Lynn v Rothwell; Moor Green v Weston. Dr Martens Cup: Semi-final, second leg: Hastings v Waterlooville; Leek v Rushden and Diamonds.

KONICA LEAGUE OF WALES: Maesteg v Aberystwyth (7.45), Afan Lido v Ebbw Vale.

LONDON SPARTAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Hanwell v Beaconsfield Sycob.

PARASOL COMBINED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Godalming and Guildford v Eton Wick.

MINERVA SOUTH MIDLANDS LEAGUE: Premier division: Arlesey v Hoddesdon, Biggleswade v Milton Keynes, Harpenden v Royston, Potters Bar v Welwyn GC; Wingate and Finchley v Shillington.

GREAT MILLS LEAGUE: Premier division: Bristol MF v Frome, Elmore v Liskeard. Odd Down v Mangotsfield.

INTERLINK EXPRESS MIDLAND ALLIANCE: Boldmere St M v W Mids Police, Hinckley v Pagel, Rushall v Stratford.

FEDERATION BREWERY NORTHERN LEAGUE: First division: Chester-le-Street v Consett, Dunston FB v West Auckland, Ferryhill v Shildon, RTM Newcastle v Billingham.

WILKINSON SWORD LEAGUE CUP: *Second round:* Bangor v Glentoran.

NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: Premier division: Ashfield v Stocksbridge PS; Belper v Maltby MW, Liversedge v Bingg, Ossett A v Thackley. Cup: *Fourth round:* Arnold v Selby

CARLING NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Bradford PA v Maine Rd, Burscough v Glossop, Newcastle T v Eastwood H; Prescot v Bacup.

JEWSON LEAGUE: Premier division: Halstead v Comard; Wroxham v Stowmarket.

JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: First division: Horndean v Eastleigh; Swanage and Herston v Bournemouth. Cup: Quarter-final, second leg: Thatcham v Ryde.

WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: First division: Cheltham v Whitstable; Corinthian v Crockenhill, Greppy v Ramsgate; Slade Green v Fumess; Thamesmead v Beckenham, Tunbridge Wells v Darenth Heathside; Folkestone Invicta v Faversham.

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division (7.0): OPR v Ipswich (Harrow Borough); West Ham v Bristol City.

FA YOUTH CUP: Fifth round: Sunderland v Manchester City

RUGBY UNION

Club matches
Blaina v Cross Keys (7.0) .....
Tiverton v Exeter (7.30) .....

RUGBY LEAGUE

University match
Cambridge v Oxford (London Welsh, 3.30) .....

OTHER SPORT

BOWLS: English women's national championships (Northampton).

ICE SKATING: World championships (NEC, Birmingham).

POOLS FORECAST

Saturday March 11
unless stated
Coupon No. fixture, forecast

FA CUP
SIXTH ROUND

Not on coupons: Crystal Palace v Wolves, Everton v Newcastle (Sunday), Liverpool v Tottenham, Manchester United v Queens Park Rangers (Sunday)

FA PREMIERSHIP

1 Chelsea v Leeds	1
2 Coventry v Blackburn	X
3 Leicester v Notm F	2
4 West Ham v Norwich	1

Not on coupons: Sheffield Wednesday v Wimbledon

FIRST DIVISION

5 Bolton v Middlesbro	1
6 Burnley v Oldham	2
7 Charlton v Portsm'th	X
8 Derby v Millwall	1
9 Notts Co v Sheff Utd	2
10 Port Vale v Bristol C	X
11 Reading v Barnsley	1
12 Southend v Luton	2
13 Sunderland v Stoke	2
14 Tranmere v Grimsby	1

Not on coupons: Watford v Swindon

SECOND DIVISION

15 Barn'gh'm v Swansea	1
16 B'mem'th v Rotth'ham	1
17 Bradford v Plymouth	1
18 Brentford v Stockport	1
19 Brighton v Wrexham	1
20 Bristol R v Wycombe	1
21 Cambridge v Oxford	2
22 Cardiff v York	X
23 Crewe v Peterboro	1
24 Hudd'field v Chester	1
25 Hull v Leyton O	1
26 Shrewsbury v Bl'ckp'l	X

THIRD DIVISION

27 Doncaster v Barnet	X
28 Exeter v Carlisle	X
29 H'tlepool v C'chester	2
30 Mansfield v Lincoln	1
31 Preston v Fulham	2
32 Rochdale v N'pton	1
33 Scarboro v Gillingham	1
34 Scunthorpe v Bury	2
35 Torquay v Darlington	1
36 Walsall v Chest'field	X
37 Wigan v Hereford	1

VAUXHALL CONFERENCE

38 Macc'sf'ld v N'thwch	1
39 Merthyr v Telford	X
40 Runcorn v Yeovil	1
41 Southport v Welling	1
42 Stalybr'ge v Altr'chm	2
43 Woking v Stevenage	1

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE

44 Dorchester v Leek	X
45 Halesowen v Sar'b'm	1
46 Hastings v Gloucester	X
47 Rushden v Corby	1

SCOTTISH CUP
FIFTH ROUND

48 Raith v Ayrdrie	1
49 Stenh'muir v Hibs	2

Not on coupons: Celtic v Kilmarnock (Friday), Hearts v Dundee United (Sunday)

SCOTTISH SECOND

50 Clyde v Brechin	1
51 Meadowb'k v E Fife	X
52 Q of South v Morton	2
53 Stirling v Berwick	X

SCOTTISH THIRD

54 Arbroath v E Stirling	1
55 Cowdenb'th v Forfar	2
56 Montrose v C'donian	1
57 Queen's Pk v Alloa	2
58 Ross v Albion	1

TREBLE CHANCE (home teams) Coventry City, Charlton Athletic, Port Vale, Cardiff City, Shrewsbury Town, Doncaster Rovers, Exeter City, Walsall, Merthyr, Dorchester, Hastings, Meadowbank.

BEST DRAWS: Coventry, Charlton, Cardiff, Walsall, Dorchester.

AWAYS: Oldham, Luton, Stoke, Oxford, Fulham.

HOMES: West Ham, Derby, Reading, Brentford, Crewe, Mansfield, Scarborough, Wigan, Southport, Woking, Rushden, Ross.

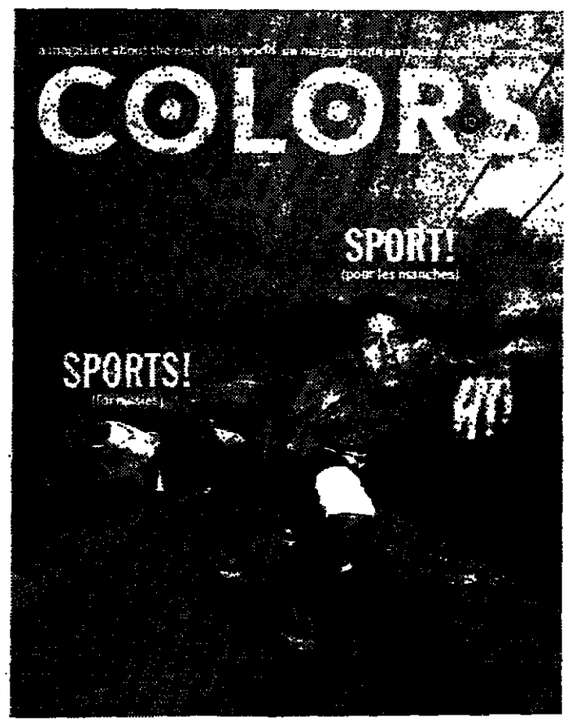
FIXED ODDS: Homes: Derby, Brentford, Crewe, Scarborough, Woking. Aways: Oldham, Oxford, Fulham Draws: Charlton, Cardiff, Dorchester.

☐ Vince Wright

SNOW REPORTS

	Depth (cm) L	U	Conditions Piste	Off/p	Runs to resort	Weather (5pm)	°C	Last snow
AUSTRIA								
Mayrhofen	10	105	good	powder	fair	cloud	-8	6/3
	(Excellent skiing conditions but very mixed visibility)							
St Anton	95	430	good	powder	good	snow	0	6/3
	(Superb skiing everywhere but not all lifts open)							
FRANCE								
Alpe d'Huez	230	440	powder	powder	good	snow	0	6/3
	(Yet more snow; fantastic powder skiing everywhere)							
Chamonix	120	635	powder	powder	powder	snow	-3	6/3
	(Excellent powder skiing everywhere: masses of snow)							
ITALY								
Cervinia	120	400	good	powder	good	snow	-4	6/3
	(Fresh snow on good base; varied visibility all day)							
SWITZERLAND								
Wengen	70	190	powder	powder	good	snow	-1	6/3
	(Superb snow conditions; poor visibility; no queues)							

Source: Ski Club of Great Britain. L - lower slopes; U - upper; art - artificial.



SPORTS (FOR SISSIES)
on sale March 1st at better newsstands and Benetton
train surfing in rio, toilet-bowl tossing in california, naked men vs. naked women, goatball in uzbekistan and the perfect shoes for choka

Lambourn deal takes sponsors beyond £1m

By Julian Muscat

REVENUE generated by the British Horseracing Board's (BHB) sponsorship framework, introduced seven months ago, topped £1 million yesterday when Danka (UK) Ltd announced a three-year sponsorship package worth £350,000 to the racing fraternity in Lambourn.

The Danka logo is to be emblazoned on the jockeys' silks, horseboxes, horse attendants' clothing and rugs of horses trained by members of the Lambourn Trainers' Federation. The deal extends to some 1,500 horses expected to contest more than 5,500 races each year, and includes horses of the calibre of Master Oats, favourite for the Cheltenham Gold Cup on Thursday week.

Under the terms of the contract, the connections of every runner from Lambourn will receive a sponsorship fee. Bonuses rising to £1,000 are to be paid to winners of valuable televised events, and the stable saddling most winners each year will receive a special award. The deal, which does not extend to owners with existing sponsorship, shows the way forward to those yet to secure commercial backing.

Martin St Quinton, chief executive of Danka (UK), cites television exposure among the reasons for broking the package. "The attraction of sponsoring horseracing was hitherto very limited but the recent introduction of logo sites on the jockeys' colours has made the project commercially viable," he said yesterday.

Danka (UK), a photocopier and fax supplier, stands to gain from the 400 hours of televised coverage which attracts a weekly audience of four million. Lambourn's dominance of the National Hunt season ensures that the company logo will be particularly evident at the imminent racing Festivals of Cheltenham and Aintree.

Details of the scheme, the most valuable of its kind to date, were announced less than a week after the BHB consented to a significant increase in company logo sizes, particularly those attached to a jockey's silks. The BHB's earlier restrictions were criticised by owners and trainers.

Lee Richardson, the BHB's marketing director who launched the sponsorship framework in June, said yesterday: "The Danka initiative is extremely encouraging for racing in general and Lambourn in particular. I hope other groups within the industry can take a lead from this innovative approach."

Aside from its value, the deal is important in other respects. The VAT concession accorded racing two years ago is dependent on the industry demonstrating its intent to secure sponsorship of this nature. Racing's income through commercial sponsorship grew by seven per cent in 1994.

Despite the success of the sponsorship framework, there is some concern that racing has yet to attract a significant backer without existing links in the sport. St Quinton himself is a keen racehorse owner. His Coulton, trained by Oliver Sherwood in Lambourn, is to contest an as yet unspecified race at Cheltenham next week, and Tattersalls, which announced a £150,000 package three months ago, is a bloodstock sales company based in Newmarket.

Photograph, page 23

CHRIS SMITH



Swan can look forward to a book of Cheltenham rides which includes Danoli in the Champion Hurdle

Swan feathers Cheltenham nest

By Our Irish Racing Correspondent

BY ANY yardstick, Charlie Swan's introduction to the Cheltenham Festival was unhappy. He broke his arm when Irish Dream fell at the last in the 1987 Triumph Hurdle, and, to add insult to injury, the ambulance returning him to the weighing room crashed into a car.

It would be understandable if Swan looked on the Festival with a jaundiced eye; instead he laughs at the memory. He can afford to. A first Festival success with Trapper John in the Stayers' Hurdle gave way to four winners in 1993 and three more last year. His two Ritz awards as the meeting's leading jockey have made him the recognisable face of the resurgent Irish fortunes at the Festival.

It is little exaggeration to call Swan a phenomenon. The five-times Irish champion annually accumulates more than twice as many winners as anyone else in Ireland and he is still only 25.

No jump jockey has dominated Irish racing to such an extent. He has developed a following which simply backs him blindly and it will be no different at Cheltenham. A book of rides which includes Danoli in the Champion Hurdle turns the spotlight on Swan, but he remains equable in its glare. "I suppose the attention can be a little annoying, but, no, it doesn't bother me."

Swan has the option of riding Montelado, on whom he won at the Festival two years ago, in the Champion, but the eight-year-old has not run since. If Pat Flynn brings him back to win it will be an astounding training achievement but the odds are against him. Swan recognises Montelado's talent but logic dictates Danoli is the better choice, especially as Tom Foley's horse is sparkling in his preparation.

"I would not be too worried that he has not had a prep race for Cheltenham," Swan said. "Tom says he is very well and he certainly pleased me in a gallop at Leopardstown on Sunday."

Swan is beginning to sound confident about Danoli's chance in what looks the most competitive Champion Hurdle for years. Contrary to popular opinion, he does not expect the ground to dominate Danoli's chance. "I wouldn't be worried if it's good ground," he said. "He is a very good mover and went well on it last year in the Sun Alliance Hurdle. Just because he has won on the soft, people believe he must have it like that. He has more speed than many think. He has been working with seven furlong horses on Jim Bolger's gallops and going every bit as well as them."

However, with the wet weather continuing, the likelihood is of some cut in the ground at Cheltenham. While Danoli should handle it, the going may not suit some of Swan's other intended mounts.

The Edward O'Grady-trained pair Ventana Canyon (Supreme Novices' Hurdle) and Sound Man (Arkle or Cathcart Chase) prefer good ground. "I was a little disappointed with Ventana Canyon at Punchestown last time. He didn't jump as well as he can and Sound Man made two bad mistakes behind Harcon at the same meeting."

Time For A Run, the favourite for the Coral Cup, Loshian (Mildmay Of Flete) and possibly Her Honour (Stayers' Hurdle) also give Swan plenty to savour. Yet he does not opt for the obvious in selecting his best hope of success at the Festival: "I'd love to win the Champion Hurdle but I think Brockley Court has a great chance in the Grand Annual."

Walford holds trump card

By Brian Beel

SPECTATORS at Leicester today are in for a treat when the talented Fiftysevenchannels runs in The Times Rising Stars qualifier. Denied a run when Kelso was abandoned last Friday, Fiftysevenchannels looks sure to become the first horse to win two qualifiers, having enjoyed an easy success at Hereford a month ago.

After that race a number of leading trainers expressed an interest in buying him but his owner, John Cooper, told me that he is not for sale. "I get on well with him out hunting and won't let him go," he said.

THE TIMES RISING STARS

The searching course and testing conditions should provide Fiftysevenchannels with an excellent opportunity to show his stamina. He stands head and shoulders above his rivals. Coltrane won three races on the Flat in 1993 and was sold out of Lord Huntingdon's stable for 22,000 guineas. He subsequently ran without much success for Martin Pipe and is now with Lee Bowles. On his only outing this season he was well beaten into third behind Winnie Lorraine in an open race at Badbury Rings ten days ago.

Coverdale Lane, the winner of two races last term, has disappointed this season, at Alnwick and when tailed off and pulled up in Fiftysevenchannel's race at Hereford. Cruising On also pulled up when tailed off at Nottingham last Tuesday.

Another former Martin Pipe-trained runner is Snowy Lane. He was a fairly useful handicap hurdler who went best in testing ground but his jumping appears to be suspect over the stiffer National Hunt fences. He lasted only to the second at Folkestone recently but had previously completed safely in a point-to-point when third in an open at Wadebridge.

Fiftysevenchannels should provide his trainer, Tim Walford, and rider, Noel Wilson, with a ninth winner already this term, unless Wily William beats them to it in the preceding maiden race.

LEICESTER LINE-UP

3.20 TIMES RISING STARS HUNTERS CHASE
(Qualifier: amateurs: £1,935: 3m) (5 runners)

1 45-3 COLTRANE 10P (L Bowles) L Bowles 7-12-5 ____ R Johnson (7) –
2 11 FIFTYSEVENCHANNELS 22 (D,S) (J Cooper) T Walford 6-12-5 __ N Wilson (5) 98
3 63/61-3F SNOWY LANE 13 (V,D,B,S) (R Simpson) R Simpson 7-12-5 ... E Williams (7) [top]
4 065-P CRUISING ON 7 (S) (Mrs J Goodall) B Goodall 8-12-0 ____ C Stuckton (7) –
5 F2-0P COVERDALE LANE 22 (D,S) (J Fillongton) Miss C Richardson 8-11-7 P Murray (7) –

BETTING: 1-5 Fiftysevenchannels, 10-1 Coverdale Lane, 14-1 Snowy Lane, 16-1 Coltrane, Cruising On

1994: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

FORM FOCUS

COLTRANE distant 3rd of 8 to Winnie Lorraine in open at Badbury Rings (good to soft). FIFTYSEVENCHANNELS beat Celtic Abbey 11l in a 12-runner hunter chase at Hereford (3m 1f 110yd, heavy) with COVEDALE LANE tailed off when pulled up. SNOWY LANE 12l 3rd of 7 to Faithful Star in an open at Wadebridge (3m, good to soft). Best effort last season beat Rampolda 3l in an 8-runner novice chase at Wincanton (3m 1f 110yd, good to soft). CRUISING ON 16l 5th of 11 to [illegible] in a novice chase at Towcester (3m 1f, good) on penultimate start.
Selection: FIFTYSEVENCHANNELS

SEDGEFIELD

THUNDERER

2.00 Cheeky Pot
2.30 Livio
3.00 Easby Joker
3.30 Bluff Knoll
4.00 Ali's Alibi
4.30 Uron V
5.00 TRAP DANCER (nap)

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 4.30 URON V.

GOING: GOOD (GOOD TO SOFT IN PLACES) SIS

2.00 JOHN WADE HAULAGE CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,996: 2m 1f 110yd) (12 runners)

101 653523 CHEEKY POT 8 (V,CD,F,S) (P & I Darling) Denys Smith 7-11-10 ____ P Waggott 82
102 462044 KALKO 45 (G,S) (J Rookes) A Harrison 6-11-9 ____ D Bentley 94
103 14/P-0P0 KIRSTENBOSCH 8 (D,F,G) (Mrs B Lungo) L Lungo 8-11-6 ____ F Perratt 80
104 1200/P6 VIENNA WOODS 33 (S) (R Wragg) Jimmy Fitzgerald 8-10-10 ____ E Callaghan (3) 88
105 0-FR630 CAMPTOSAURUS 78 (J Howard Johnson) J Johnson 6-10-10 ____ F Leahy 85
106 1FP0 STEADFAST ELITE 33 (D,G) (J Clayton) J J O'Neill 4-10-10 ____ R McGrath (5) 94
107 P40-PP0 DUTCH BLUES 71 (C,D,S) (Scotnorth Racing Ltd) Mrs S Austin 8-10-9 __ P Midgley 91
108 R0F005 NOSMO KING 24 (Mrs M Kendall) Mrs M Kendall 4-10-7 ____ E Husband 89
109 00/06-20 EASY RHYTHM 17 (B Temple) B Temple 8-10-3 ____ B Harding [top]
110 /2/04 HIGHLAND PARK 46 (R Craggs) R Craggs 9-10-2 ____ 5 Hogan 81
111 043-P06 MAC RAMBLER 28 (Dr Horace Ngan) N Bycroft 8-10-1 ____ D Towler (5) 95
112 P05-065 STARLIGHT WONDER 78 (D,F,G) (I Thomson) R Barr 9-10-0 ____ G Lee 92

BETTING: 3-1 Cheeky Pot, 7-2 Kalko, 6-1 Vienna Woods, 8-1 Camptosaurus, 10-1 Kirstenbosch, Starlight Wonder, 12-1 others

1994: REGAL ROMPER 6-11-8 D Towler (8-1) Mrs S Smith 13 ran

FORM FOCUS

CHEEKY POT 10½l 3rd of 16 to Quiet Mistress in selling handicap hurdle at Newcastle (2m 4f, good to soft), with KIRSTENBOSCH (1lb better off) about 12l 8th. Earlier 1l and neck 3rd of 15 to Fly To The End in conditional jockeys' selling handicap hurdle at Catterick (2m, soft), with KALKO (2lb better off) 2l 4th. CAMPTOSAURUS 11l 3rd of 13 to Master Bracken in amateur riders' novice hurdle at Catterick (2m, good) on penultimate start. NOSMO KING 23½l 5th of 16 to Supertop in selling hurdle at Catterick (2m, heavy). EASY RHYTHM 3½l 2nd of 16 to Bargash in conditional jockeys' selling handicap hurdle over course and distance (good), with CHEEKY POT (6lb worse off) 6½l 5th. VIENNA WOODS (4lb worse off) 1¾ 6th, NOSMO KING (4lb worse off) 1l 8th and MAC RAMBLER and STEADFAST ELITE further adrift. HIGHLAND PARK 16½l 4th of 15 to Bold Pursuit in a conditional jockeys handicap hurdle at Catterick (2m 3f, soft), with KIRSTENBOSCH tailed off 10th.
Selection: CHEEKY POT

2.30 MARCH HARE NOVICES HURDLE (£2,373: 2m 5f 110yd) (12 runners)

201 241160 MEMORABLE 17 (CD,G,S) (C Barber-Lomax) J Hetherton 4-11-11 __ D Byrne 94
202 4-61053 JIHAAD 17 (B,S) (A Brackley) J White 5-11-8 ____ D Bridgwater 98
203 1222 JALCANTO 17 (CD,F) (W Davies) Mrs M Reveley 5-11-8 ____ P Niven [top]
204 0P00-P0 ABSOLUTELYMUSTARD 10 (Mrs M Roper) J Jefferson 6-11-2 ____ M Dwyer –
205 00050-0 BOB NELSON 17 (Mrs C Clarke) P Beaumont 8-11-2 ____ R Supple –
206 BUNGY BOURKE (H Alexander) H Alexander 7-11-2 ____ P Waggott –
207 46200 JIHAAD 8 (B) (M O'Toole) J Norton 5-11-2 ____ W Fry (7) 90
208 0-000P5 MARKED CARD 24 (Mrs M Kendall) Mrs M Kendall 7-11-2 ____ Mrs M Kendall 73
209 2 MISTER MUDDYPAWS 45 (J Howard Johnson) J Johnson 5-11-2 ____ A Maguire 83
210 00 PERSIAN GRANGE 10 (Exors of R Lamb) D Lamb 5-11-2 ____ Mr A Manners (7) –
211 03 SIRERIC 46 (C Bell) S Bell 5-11-2 ____ K Johnson 71
212 0021F LIVIO 24 (S) (CD,BF) (J Glass) L Lungo 4-10-13 ____ T Reed 97

BETTING: 9-4 Jalcanto, 3-1 Imad, 9-2 Memorable, 6-1 Livio, 8-1 Mister Muddypaws, 10-1 Jihaad, 16-1 others.

1994: MASTER BOSTON 6-11-8 R Garrity (7-1) R Woodhouse 17 ran

FORM FOCUS

MEMORABLE best effort beat Manwell 4l in 12-runner handicap hurdle over course and distance (good to soft). IMAD 55½l 5th of 9 to Country Store in novice hurdle at Folkestone (2m 6f 110yd, soft) on penultimate start. JALCANTO 4l 2nd of 16 to House Captain in novice hurdle at Newcastle (2m 4f, good to soft), with IMAD short-head 3rd and BOB NELSON tailed off 14th. JIHAAD 7l 2nd of 17 to Sweet Mignonette in novice hurdle at Doncaster (2m 110yd, good). MISTER MUDDYPAWS 14l 2nd of 23 to Dorlin Castle in maiden hurdle at Catterick (3m 1f 110yd, soft). SIRERIC 21¼l 3rd of 16 to Ingletonian in novice hurdle at Catterick (2m 3f, soft).
Selection: JALCANTO

3.00 MAD HATTER NOVICES CHASE (£2,815: 2m 1f) (6 runners)

301 0/F-451 ANOTHER RED 24 (S) (W Raw) W Raw 7-11-10 ____ M Hourigan [top]
302 66561P NORTH PRIDE 24 (F,S) (J Wills) M Barnes 10-11-10 ____ P Niven 97
303 314555 BACK BEFORE DAWN 24 (G,S) (J Pirie) P Monteith 8-11-3 ____ A Dobbin –
304 52-630F EASBY JOKER 33 (BF,S) (G Orchard) S Kettlewell 7-11-3 ____ R Garrity –
305 P40P0P LA MOLINILLA 10 (F) (Mrs K Lamb) Mrs K Lamb 12-10-12 Miss S Lamb (7) –
306 000PP-P SULAAH ROSE 71 (J Hulme) Mrs J Jordan 6-10-12 ____ D Morris –

BETTING: 4-5 Another Red, 7-2 Easby Joker, 5-1 North Pride, 8-1 Back Before Dawn, 14-1 La Molinilla, 20-1 Sulaah Rose.

1994: DORADUS 6-10-10 F Leahy (7-2) Jimmy Fitzgerald 12 ran

FORM FOCUS

ANOTHER RED beat Highland Poacher 13l in novice chase at Catterick (2m, heavy). NORTH PRIDE beat Seagull Hollow 2½l in novices' handicap chase at Catterick (2m, heavy) on penultimate start. BACK BEFORE DAWN 18½l 5th of 13 to King Athelstan in handicap hurdle at Catterick (3m, heavy) on penultimate start. EASBY JOKER best recent effort 11l 3rd of 17 to Noyan in novice hurdle at Newcastle (2m 4f, good).
Selection: ANOTHER RED

GUIDE TO OUR IN-LINE RACECARD

101 113143 GOOD TIMES 13 (BF,F,G,S) [illegible] B West (7) 88

Racecard number. Six-figure form [illegible]. [illegible] Horse's name. Days since last outing. [illegible] C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race. Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

3.30 McEWAN'S DURHAM NATIONAL
(Handicap chase: £5,508: 3m 4f) (8 runners)

401 0-2F513 MONKEY AGO [illegible] J Burke 88
402 1-21314 PORTONIA [illegible] Mrs M Reveley [illegible] P Niven 95
403 162246 OVER THE DEEL [illegible] D Bridgwater 98
404 2-43132 BLUFF KNOLL [illegible] G Harker [top]
405 P0PP-F3 STIRRUP CUP [illegible] J Osborne 80
406 51-2310 CHOCTAW [illegible] C Hawkins 97
407 211030 BRAVE DEFENDER [illegible] N Williamson 90
408 0PP-625 MAJIC RAIN 17 [illegible] B Storey 84

Long handicap: Majic Rain 9-9

BETTING: 2-1 Bluff Knoll, 5-2 Portonia, 5-1 Stirrup Cup, 7-1 Monkey Ago, 10-1 Choctaw, 12-1 Over The Deel, 14-1 others

1994: PORTONIA [illegible] Mrs M Reveley 5 ran

FORM FOCUS

MONKEY AGO [illegible] handicap chase at Kelso [illegible] PORTONIA beat [illegible] for a handicap chase at Catterick [illegible] good to soft) on penultimate start. OVER THE DEEL 20l 2nd of 3 to [illegible] in handicap chase at Newbury [illegible] on penultimate start. BLUFF KNOLL [illegible] Collonges in handicap chase at Kelso (3m 4f, good to soft), with OVER THE DEEL 15l 4th. CHOCTAW beat Fine Sin 13l in 4-runner conditional jockeys' handicap chase at Catterick (3m 1f 110yd, good) on penultimate start. MAJIC RAIN 1½l 2nd of 9 to Prince Yaza in handicap chase at Sedgefield (3m 3f, good to soft).
Selection: BLUFF KNOLL

4.00 ROBIN AND JOHN SIMPSON MEMORIAL HANDICAP CHASE
£3,418: 2m 5f) (4 runners)

501 0-11121 ALI'S ALIBI 24 (CD,G,S) [illegible] Mrs M Reveley 8-12-0 ____ P Niven 95
502 411P5-3 WAIT YOU THERE 10 (CD,F,G,S) (H Alexander) H Alexander 10-11-9 J Osborne 93
503 0021-6 BUCK OWENS 9 (C,F) (Mrs S Johnson) J Johnson 10-10-11 ____ A Maguire 80
504 5664P0 FISH QUAY 32 (F,G,S) (Mrs K Lamb) Mrs K Lamb 12-10-0 Miss S Lamb (7) [top]

Long handicap: Fish Quay, 9-4

BETTING: 1-5 Ali's Alibi, 6-1 Wait You There, 10-1 Buck Owens, 16-1 Fish Quay

1994: COMEDY ROAD 10-10-8 A Maguire (7-2) R Lee 8 ran

FORM FOCUS

ALI'S ALIBI beat Funny Old Game 2l in match for a handicap chase at Ayr (2m 4f, heavy). WAIT YOU THERE tailed off 3rd of 4 to Red Cole in handicap chase at Edinburgh (2m, good). BUCK OWENS beat Distant Cherry 12l in novice chase here (3m 3f, good to firm) on penultimate start. FISH QUAY 33l 8th of 9 to Uranus Collonges in handicap chase at Kelso (3m 4f, good to soft).
Selection: ALI'S ALIBI

4.30 GUS CARTER HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,815: 3m 3f 110yd) (6 runners)

601 4P2504 LION OF VIENNA 8 (S) (J Macey) T Carr 8-12-0 ____ Richard Guest 88
602 P-41102 FARMER'S CROSS 7 (C,G,S) (Mrs A Farrell) P Beaumont 11-11-9 B Grattan (7) 98
603 2144F6 GLANDALANE LADY 7 (F,G) (Mrs M O'Neill) J J O'Neill 6-11-8 R McGrath (7) 86
604 32/4UU1 URON V 7 (F,S) (G Faber and P Ambler) Mrs M Reveley 9-11-8 (5ex) P Niven [top]
605 000365 KIR 6 (B,F,G) (L Crossen) V Thompson 7-10-12 ____ Mr M Thompson 86
606 5-PP662 SHELTON ABBEY 80 (B,CD,F,G,S) (J Wade) J Wade 9-10-8 ____ K Jones 88

BETTING: 6-4 Uron V, 5-2 Lion Of Vienna, 3-1 Farmer's Cross, 6-1 Shelton Abbey, 12-1 Glandalane Lady, 25-1 Kir.

1994: CARSON CITY 7-10-4 P Niven (4-1) Mrs M Reveley 12 ran

FORM FOCUS

LION OF VIENNA 9½l 4th of 10 to Motoqua in handicap hurdle at Newcastle (3m, good to soft). FARMER'S CROSS best effort beat Moneru 1¾l in 11-runner handicap hurdle at Catterick (3m 1f 110yd, soft). URON V beat FARMER'S CROSS (5lb better off) 6l in 16-runner handicap hurdle at Nottingham (3m 110yd, soft), with GLANDALANE LADY (5lb better off) about 30l 6th. KIR 13¼l 5th of 16 to Quiet Mistress in selling handicap hurdle at Newcastle (2m 4f, good to soft). SHELTON ABBEY ¾l 2nd of 14 to Very Evident in handicap hurdle at Catterick (3m 1f 110yd, good to soft), with KIR (1lb better off) 10½ 6th.
Selection: URON V

5.00 LEVY BOARD NATIONAL HUNT NOVICES HURDLE
(£2,320: 3m 3f 110yd) (9 runners)

1 64P121 DORLIN CASTLE 7 (S) (Mrs D Greig) L Lungo 7-11-10 ____ T Reed 94
2 06 ABBEY LAMP 33 (J Howard Johnson) J Johnson 6-10-12 ____ N Williamson [top]
3 00 AYLESBURY LAD 33 (Exors of R Lamb) D Lamb 6-10-12 __ Mr A Manners (7) –
4 00-0P BUYERS DREAM 38 (C Hill) J Hellens 5-10-12 ____ A Larnach (3) –
5 600P0 MISTI HUNTER 45 (J Hinchliffe) Miss M Milligan 6-10-12 ____ Richard Guest –
6 4/0-3026 TRAP DANCER 35 (G) (A Dawson) B Mactaggart 7-10-12 ____ J Supple (5) 97
7 06-22P0 MANETTIA 8 (G) (G Stevenson) Mrs M Reveley 6-10-7 ____ P Niven 91
8 00 MISS MCCORMICK 33 (Mrs D Alder) D Alder 6-10-7 ____ K Johnson –
9 P- SKYVAL 355 (Miss J Sunley) L Lloyd-James 5-10-7 ____ M Newton (7) –

BETTING: 5-4 Dorlin Castle, 5-2 Manettia, 7-2 Trap Dancer, 7-1 Abbey Lamp, 14-1 others.

1994: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

FORM FOCUS

DORLIN CASTLE beat Rua Rose 15l in novices' handicap hurdle at Catterick (3m 1f 110yd, soft). Earlier beat Mister Muddypaws 14l in maiden hurdle over same course and distance (soft), with MISTI HUNTER, AYLESBURY LAD and MISS McCORMICK all tailed off 10th, 13th and 14th respectively and MANETTIA pulled up 2 out. ABBEY LAMP 38l 5th of 18 to Livio in novice hurdle here (2m 5f 110yd, good to soft), with MISS McCORMICK and AYLESBURY LAD both tailed off 9th and 10th respectively. TRAP DANCER 9l 2nd of 10 to Morgans Harbour in handicap hurdle at Newcastle (3m, good) on penultimate start. MANETTIA best effort ½l 2nd of 14 to Now Young Man in novice hurdle at Kelso (2m 6f 110yd, good).
Selection: DORLIN CASTLE (nap)

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Rnrs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
Mrs M Reveley	73	230	31.7	D Towler	3	7	42.9
Jimmy Fitzgerald	17	61	27.9	G Lee	7	17	41.2
D Eddy	3	12	25.0	P Niven	56	193	29.0
H Alexander	3	12	25.0	M Dwyer	29	133	21.8
S Kettlewell	5	22	22.7	N Williamson	6	30	20.0
L Lungo	3	33	[illegible]	F Leahy	6	32	18.8

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RICHARD EVANS

Nap: DEAR DO
(2.50 Leicester)
Next best: Jalcanto
(2.30 Sedgefield)

Richard Evans continued his good run when napping Dominie, a 5-1 winner at Doncaster yesterday. The Times Private Handicapper (Gerald Hubbard) was also on the mark with his top-rated selection, Linton Rocks at 7-2.

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Windsor

Going: heavy

2.20 (2m 6f 110yd hdle) 1, Villa Park (Peter Hobbs, 11-1); 2, Rogers Pal (10-1); 3, Rowlandsons Gold (10-1); 4, Carfax (11-2 fav). 17 ran. ¾l, sh hd. G Wareham. Tote: £9.50; £2.50, £2.30, £2.30, £2.20. DF: £43.40. Trio: £84.00. CSF: £108.45. Tricast: £1,046.69.

2.50 (2m ch) 1, Red Bean (A Tory, 33-1); 2, Whippers Delight (3-1); 3, Rosgill (7-2). Here He Comes 5-6 fav (ur). 6 ran. 4l, 6l. J O'Donoghue. Tote: £23.80; £3.30, £1.80. DF: £42.00. CSF: £115.94.

3.25 (3m 4f 110yd ch) 1, Lucky Lane (C Maude, 13-8 fav); 2, Native Pride (2-1). 4 ran. Only two finished. Dist. P Hobbs. Tote: £2.50. DF: £2.20. CSF: £4.94.

3.55 (2m 4f hdle) 1, Cadougold (R Dunwoody, 6-5 fav); 2, Kalasadi (4-1); 3, Mistress Rosie (14-1). 9 ran. 6l, dist. M Pipe. Tote: £1.90; £1.40, £1.30, £1.90. DF: £4.30. CSF: £6.66.

4.25 (3m ch) 1, No Fizz (Mr P Hacking, 7-2); 2, Smooth Escort (7-4); 3, Sweatshirt (10-1). Flame O'Frensi 13-8 fav. 6 ran. 15l, 2½l. Mrs D Grissell. Tote: £3.70; £1.90, £1.70. DF: £4.00. CSF: £9.60.

4.55 (2m hdle) 1, Frankus (Chris Webb, 20-1); 2, Future King (8-1); 3, Crabby Bill (9-2). Major's Law 9-4 fav. 10 ran. NR: Il Bambino. 1l, sh hd. S Mellor. Tote: £16.30; £2.20, £2.30, £1.20. DF: £90.30. Trio: £189.30. CSF: £152.79. Tricast: £773.90.

Placepot: £364.70. Quadpot: £12.00.

Doncaster

Going: good

2.00 (2m 4f hdle) 1, Secret Four (Mr M Rimell, 3-1); 2, Eightandahalf (9-1); 3, Sayyure (15-8 fav). 16 ran. NR: Firm Price, White Diamond. 20l, ½l. N Twiston-Davies. Tote: £4.40; £1.80, £2.30, £1.50. DF: £22.50. CSF: £32.38.

2.30 (2m 4f hdle) 1, Linton Rocks (G McCourt, 7-2 jt-fav; Private Handicapper's top rating); 2, Do Rightly (10-1); 3, Lochnagrain (7-2 jt-fav). 15 ran. NR: Seahawk Retriever. 9l, 1¼l. T Thomson Jones. Tote: £5.30; £1.90, £3.60, £1.80. DF: £27.80. CSF: £43.58.

3.05 (2m 3f 110yd ch) 1, Newlands-General (M Dwyer, 9-2); 2, Man Of The Grange (15-2); 3, Master Of The Rock (20-1). The Bud Club 100-30 fav (ur). 9 ran. 4l, 30l. Jimmy Fitzgerald. Tote: £6.10; £2.20, £1.50, £6.70. DF: £25.00. Trio: £163.10. CSF: £34.67. Tricast: £552.34.

3.35 (2m 3f 110yd ch) 1, Sheer Jest (Mr A Hill, Evens fav); 2, Dark Dawn (11-1); 3, Mr Fudge (10-1). 17 ran. NR: Golden Freeze. 3l, ½l. W Warner. Tote: £2.20; £1.60, £2.80, £2.60. DF: £18.90. CSF: £13.91.

4.05 (2m 110yd hdle) 1, Dominie (P Niven, 5-1 fav; Richard Evans's nap); 2, High Mind (9-1); 3, Ranzel (10-1); 4, Uncle Keeny (9-1). 18 ran. 3l, 1½l. J Edwards. Tote: £4.30; £2.00, £2.20, £2.50, £2.00. DF: £16.30. Trio: £194.20. CSF: £51.45. Tricast: £421.88.

4.40 (3m ch) 1, Montebel (C Llewellyn, 5-6 fav); 2, Far Crossing (6-4); 3, Cropredy Lad (14-1). 6 ran. 15l, 1l. N Twiston-Davies. Tote: £1.80; £1.40, £1.40. DF: £1.60. CSF: £2.36.

5.10 (2m 110yd flat) 1, Bold Fountain (N Bentley, 8-1); 2, Tiffyboy (5-2 fav); 3, Chopwell Curtains (20-1). 18 ran. 1¾l, 4l. G Moore. Tote: £37.30; £9.30, £1.10, £8.90. DF: £37.70. CSF: £31.35.

5.40 (2m 110yd flat) 1, Sugar Mill (P Niven, 6-4 fav); 2, Brancher (9-1); 3, Storm North (3-1). 17 ran. NR: Lilly The Filly. 4l, 9l. Mrs M Reveley. Tote: £2.90; £1.70, £2.90, £2.40. DF: £34.80. CSF: £21.13.

Jackpot: £1,918.90.

Placepot: £19.50. Quadpot: £9.30.

Edinburgh

Going: good

2.10 (2m hdle) 1, Colossus Of Roads (D Gallagher, 100-30); 2, Can Can Charlie (16-1); 3, Mr Towser (9-1). Supertop 11-10 fav. 15 ran. 2½l, 2l. T Thomson Jones. Tote: £4.30; £1.80, £2.40, £2.50. DF: £13.20. CSF: £56.14.

2.40 (2m ch) 1, Beldine (T Jenks, 9-4 fav); 2, Shrewd John (6-1); 3, Positive Action (5-1). 6 ran. 7l, 14l. P Monteith. Tote: £2.50; £1.60, £2.00. DF: £10.70. CSF: £14.05.

3.15 (3m 4f hdle) 1, Keep Battling (F Perratt, 6-1); 2, Antam (16-1); 3, Stoney Brook (3-1). Aviator's Dream 7-4 fav. 14 ran. 1¾l, 6l. J Goldie. Tote: £8.20; £1.70, £5.50, £1.30. DF: £60.90. CSF: £88.87.

3.45 (3m ch) 1, Leading Prospect (B Storey, 7-4); 2, Forward Glen (8-1); 3, The Boiler White (6-4 fav). 10 ran. 1¾l, 3½l. Mrs J Goodfellow. Tote: £2.70; £1.40, £4.10, £1.00. DF: £16.10. CSF: £15.26.

4.15 (2m 4f hdle) 1, Pepitist (D Bentley, 8-13 fav); 2, Bayan Affair (12-1); 3, Dancing River (12-1). 6 ran. 3½l, 3½l. M Hammond. Tote: £1.70; £1.90, £3.00. DF: £4.70. CSF: £8.71.

4.45 (2m 4f ch) 1, Tribal Ruler (D McCain, 10-1); 2, Timanfaya (7-1); 3, Miami Bear (14-1). Juke Box Billy 7-4 fav. 8 ran. 1l, 3½l. D McCain. Tote: £9.90; £2.00, £2.10, £1.80. DF: £18.70. CSF: £69.68. Tricast: £884.14.

5.15 (2m flat) 1, Planning Gain (F Perratt, 7-1); 2, Lord Fortune (16-1); 3, Professor Page (7-1). Festive Lassie 3-1 fav. 15 ran. 1l, 6l. L Lungo. Tote: £10.90; £1.70, £3.60, £4.00. DF: £49.10. CSF: £107.27.

Placepot: £71.10. Quadpot: £2.40.

RACING AHEAD

Robert Wright suggests the best value in the ante-post market

SUNDERLANDS IMPERIAL CUP
Sandown, March 11

GUIDE TO THE LEADING PRICES

	Corals	Hills	Ladbrokes	Tote
Amigos	9-4	11-4	5-2	11-4
Trying Again	11-2	9-2	6-1	5-1
Warm Spell	7-1	7-1	8-1	11-2
Star Player	10-1	8-1	12-1	10-1
Batabanoo	12-1	12-1	10-1	16-1
Cumbrian Challenge	10-1	10-1	10-1	10-1
Collier Bay	14-1	14-1	8-1	10-1
Sohrab	12-1	12-1	14-1	12-1
Noyan	10-1	12-1	16-1	14-1
Salwan	14-1	14-1	12-1	12-1
Redeemyourself	16-1	20-1	16-1	16-1
King Credo	25-1	20-1	20-1	25-1

The Imperial Cup at Sandown provides an excellent pre-Festival warm-up for punters. This year's renewal is typically competitive, and will be even more so if King Credo pulls out from the top of the weights.

The ground at Sandown is heavy at the moment and, with rain forecast for later in the week, there is a good chance that the fast ground-loving King Credo will be withdrawn. Doubts also surround the participation of Batabanoo, Trying Again and Cumbrian Challenge, and if these are all pulled out the weights would rise by 24lb.

The participation of Trying Again - runner-up on his last two starts to Champion Hurdle aspirants Mysilv and Alderbrook - hinges on a gallop at David Gandolfo's Wantage base this morning. He has sound claims if taking part, but after two hard races, 6-1 makes little appeal.

The front-running Amigos, owned by the BBC commentator, Peter O'Sullevan, is another who is unlikely to appreciate very testing ground. Undoubtedly well treated he is a worthy favourite, but may be found wanting for stamina and at a best-priced 11-4 he is worth opposing.

One who would relish heavy ground is the inappropriately named Warm Spell. Gary Moore's five-year-old has run only twice over hurdles, but is a useful handicapper on the Flat, and proved his wellbeing when winning a weak contest on the all-weather at Lingfield a week ago.

His stamina is proven, and although he is 11lb higher in the handicap than when runner-up to Daring Past at Newbury last year, he made much of the running that day and is at his most effective when held up off a strong pace, which is guaranteed at Sandown by the presence of Amigos.

With the season's leading conditional jockey, Tony McCoy, already booked for the ride, WARM SPELL is tremendous value at the 8-1 on offer with Ladbrokes.

LEICESTER

THUNDERER

2.20 Wily William. 2.50 Northern Saddler. 3.20 Fiftysevenchannels. 3.50 Ryde Again. 4.20 Solar Green. 4.50 Duncan.

BRIAN BEEL

2.20 Vague Influence. 3.20 Fiftysevenchannels. 3.50 Ryde Again. 4.20 Solar Green. 4.50 Ebony Star.

GOING: SOFT (HEAVY PATCHES) SIS

2.20 SQUIRE OSBALDESTON MAIDEN HUNTERS CHASE (Amateurs: £1,925: 2m 4f 110yd) (12 runners)

1 -P1P ACERTAINHIT 7 (F,S) D Pritchard 11-12-7 __ D Pritchard (7) 82
2 03-4 CAUSEWAY CRUISER 29 (G,S) J Tredwell 9-12-7 ____ R Lawther (7) 90
3 45-3 FREDDIE FOX 17P (G,S) A Garton 9-12-7 ____ T Garton (7) 92
4 04-U GRAND PASHA 131 Mrs A Swinbank 7-12-7 Chris Wilson (7) –
5 3P-5 MONAUGHTY MAN 7 E Caine 9-12-7 ____ K Green (7) 93
6 00/ MY SON JOHN 776 R Lee 12-12-7 ____ Michael Traurig (5) –
7 4-32 PANCRATIC 17P M Pepper 12-12-7 ____ C Millington (7) –
8 43-4 RAGALOO 24P (B) B Lay 9-12-7 ____ L Lay (7) 78
9 12/2 VAGUE INFLUENCE 11 (B) M Mullineaux 9-12-7 D Barlow (7) [top]
10 -211 WILY WILLIAM 9P (G,S) T Walford 6-12-7 ____ N Wilson (5) –
11 0F/ CASTLE DREAMER 863 Miss C Richardson 8-12-2 ____ P Murray (7) –
12 /P55 LADY BUCHAN 10P L Bowles 6-12-2 ____ R Johnson (7) –

2-1 Wily William, 9-4 Vague Influence, 6-1 Causeway Cruiser, 10-1 Monaughty Man, 12-1 Pancratic, 16-1 others.

2.50 LEICESTERSHIRE AND DERBYSHIRE YEOMANRY HANDICAP CHASE
(Amateurs: £2,928: 2m 1f 110yd) (3)

1 2221 MISTER ODDY 5 (CD,G,S) J King 9-12-2 (7ex) M Rimell (7) 91
2 2312 NORTHERN SADDLER 12 (F,G,S) R Hodges 8-12-0 ____ Miss P Curling (5) 88
3 0221 DEAR DO 13 (S) N Henderson 8-10-8 ____ C Vigors (7) [top]

6-4 Northern Saddler, 7-4 Dear Do, 9-4 Mister Oddy.

3.20 TIMES RISING STARS HUNTERS CHASE
(Qualifier: amateurs: £1,935: 3m) (5)

RUNNERS AND RIDERS — SEE ABOVE

3.50 GARY WILTSHIRE LEICESTERSHIRE HUNTERS CHASE (Amateurs: £3,493: 3m) (6)

1 4-41 SPARKLING FLAME 15 (D,G) R Bartlett 11-12-1 D Parker (5) 75
2 /311 GENERAL HIGHWAY 9P (B,S) C Dawson 12-11-10 ____ Mrs J Dawson (7) 79
3 1-22 GREEN ARCHER 17P (B,S) Mrs T Hill 12-11-10 Mrs T Hill (7) –
4 3/RU LISLARY LAD 19 (D,F,G,S) L Bowles 15-11-10 R Johnson (7) –
5 P-22 RYDE AGAIN 19 (CD,BF,F,G,S) Miss C Saunders 12-11-10 ____ T Marks (7) [top]
6 -3P6 STAY ON TRACKS 17P (D,F,G,S) N King 13-11-10 N King (7) 98

1-2 Ryde Again, 6-1 Sparkling Flame, 7-1 General Highway, 10-1 Green Archer, 25-1 Lislary Lad, Stay On Tracks.

4.20 THRUSTERS HUNTERS CHASE
(Amateurs: £1,918: 2m 1f) (8)

1 163- TRUST THE GYPSY 294 (CD,F,G,S) J Dufosee 13-12-12 ____ M Felton (5) [top]
2 P/PP RECTORY BOY 7 (F,S) B Llewellyn 12-12-8 J L Llewellyn (5) –
3 11-1 SOLAR GREEN 17P (F,G,S) S Brookshaw 10-12-4 ____ S Brookshaw (5) 98
4 PP/P FINE TIMING 24P Miss D Hughes 8-12-0 Miss A Plunkett (7) –
5 2P2- FRAGRANT FELLOW 309P (F) Mrs L Lamb 11-12-0 ____ A Pickering (7) –
6 0/ I PERCEIVE 816 M Mullineaux 8-12-0 ____ D Barlow (7) –
7 P MOLLY READE 17P Miss C Richardson 9-11-9 P Murray (7) –
8 P-10 NATIONAL GYPSY 27 (F) J Dufosee 9-11-9 ____ R Nuttall (7) –

5-4 Solar Green, 5-2 Trust The Gypsy, 9-2 Fragrant Fellow, 10-1 National Gypsy, Rectory Boy, 25-1 I Perceive, Molly Reade, Fine Timing

4.50 MELTON HUNT CLUB HUNTERS CHASE
(Amateurs: £1,935: 2m 4f 110yd) (8)

1 1-22 DUNCAN 7 (D,BF,F,G,S) Miss C Saunders 10-12-6 ____ B Pollock (7) 98
2 32PF THE BLUE BOY 6 (B,F,G,S) P Bowen 7-12-6 __ D Duggan (7) [top]
3 PP-P BEE GARDEN 25 (B,D,G,S) M Ashton 14-11-10 __ D Ingle (7) 96
4 6-P1 BONUS BOY 154 (S) R Buckler 10-11-10 __ M Hoskins (7) 67
5 004- DOMINICS CROSS 297P (D,G,S) N Pomfret 11-11-10 ____ A Sansome (7) –
6 F0-5 EBONY STAR 7 (D,G,S) Mrs F Lockwood 12-11-10 ____ J Trice-Rolph (7) 65
7 -0P0 PARSONS SON 7 (D,F) S Griffiths 10-11-10 __ S Griffiths (7) 54
8 30-3 SKINNHILL 13 (B,CD,F,G,S) J Porter 11-11-10 ____ Miss K Binnington (7) 87

7-4 Duncan, 3-1 Ebony Star, 7-2 The Blue Boy, 10-1 Bee Garden, Bonus Boy, 16-1 Parsons Son, 20-1 Dominics Cross, Skinnhill

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: Miss C Saunders, 3 winners from 8 runners, 37.5%; N Henderson, 4 from 14, 28.6%. Only qualifiers.

JOCKEYS: Mr D Parker, 3 winners from 7 rides, 42.9%. Only qualifier.

Blinkered first time

SEDGEFIELD: 2.30 Jihaad. 3.30 Over The Deel

Point-to-point results

SUNDAY: CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY (Cottenham). Hunt: 1, Salmon Mead (S Sporborg, 2-1); 2, Sunset Run, 3, Highland Laird 8 ran. Confined: 1, Who's Fooling Who (S Andrew, 4-1); 2, Sirisat, 3, Delameter 11 ran.

Open: 1, Brown Windsor (B Pollock, 8-11 fav); 2, Strong Gold; 3, Rhu Na Haven. 7 ran. Ladies: 1, Richard Hunt (Miss L Rowe, 1-4 fav); 2, Counterbid, 3, Crazy Otto. 8 ran. Rest I: 1, Beau Dandy (T Marks, 5-1); 2, General Picton; 3, Lavins Thatch. 15 ran. Rest II: 1, Orchestral Suite (R White, 1-2 fav), 2, Batags Brothers, 3, If So. 8 ran. Rest III: 1, Solar Rocket (J Carry, 2-1), 2, Milled Oats; 3, Insligo. 9 ran

Mdn I: 1, Across The Card (C Gordon, 5-2 jt-fav); 2, Claydons Monty; 3, Eagle Bid 7 ran. Mdn II: 1, Miss Solitaire (J Carry, 5-2 fav), 2, Auchendolly; 3, Rebel Tom. 8 ran. Mdn III: 1, Candle Glow (P Hutchinson, 7-2); 2, Dangerosa. Only 2 finished. 7 ran.

SOUTH DORSET (Milborne St Andrew). Rest I: 1, Flaked Oats (Miss P Curling, 6-4 fav), 2, Dubit; 3, Kangle Baron. 15 ran. Rest II: 1, Panda Shandy (R Nuttall, 4-1); 2, Majestic Spirit, 3, My Matcho Man. 11 ran. Hunt: 1, Pabrey (N Mitchell, 1-3 fav), 2 Highleeze, 3, Blakeneys Gift. 7 ran

Open: 1, Mr Murdock (P Henley, 6-4 jt-fav) 2, Woodbury Fair, 3, Rough Tor. 11 ran. Ladies: 1, Clandon Jack (Miss P Curling, 1-2 fav); 2, Jimmy Cone; 3, Eagle Trace 7 ran. Mdn I: 1, Balsteros (D Alers-Hankey, Evens fav); 2, Apatura Hati, 3, Father Flattery. 13 ran. Mdn II: 1, Avril Showers (R Atkinson, 3-1); 2, Country Style, 3, One For The Moon. 11 ran. Confined: 1, Faithful Star (D Pipe, 3-1), 2, Chenynut. 3, Trundle 5 ran

☐ **The meeting scheduled for Carlisle on Thursday is in doubt because of waterlogging. There is water lying on parts of the track and, with the weather forecast unpromising, an inspection will take place at 4pm today.**

Crew rescued after America's Cup yacht goes down in heavy seas

Australians get that sinking feeling

FROM BARRY PICKTHALL IN SAN DIEGO

ONE boat broke up and sank, another lost her mast. One crewman was left swinging perilously upside down at the top of a mast and another team suffered severe structural problems. It was a catastrophic day of racing for the America's Cup here on Sunday.

For the Australians, hopes of regaining the cup they first won in 1983 took a severe knock when their new £2 million boat, *oneAustralia*, launched only a month ago, suddenly broke in two in the choppy seven-foot swells and sank in 1,200 feet of water within three minutes. The French, who have become accustomed to almost daily calamities with their boats, broke their mast and Leslie Egnot's all-women crew ended its day by beating Dennis Conner's *Stars & Stripes* but nursing major structural problems within its new boat, *Mighty Mary*.

The 17-man crew of *oneAustralia* was rescued after jumping into the water as its boat went down but Ralph Steitz, a foredeck man on *Stars & Stripes*, came close to falling 80ft from the masthead after losing his grip and being swirled around upside down on the end of a halyard by the wildly gyrating spar. The bowman, Greg Prussia, was sent up and managed to get hold of Steitz and the two were safely lowered to the deck. *Stars & Stripes* later retired.

OneAustralia was trailing *Team New Zealand* and had just completed a tack when the 75ft high-tech carbon-fibre hull suddenly folded up and sank. "We heard a loud crack, almost like a cannon going off, then a sickening sound as the boat broke in two," John Bertrand, the skipper, said. "It folded like a sheet of cardboard. It was a dangerous situation. Two of our guys were down below and we were concerned that the rig was going to collapse on top of us."

The Australians still have their first boat, in which they won the world championship last year, to fall back on, but Bertrand, who skippered Alan Bond's *Australia II* to victory in 1983, admitted that the sinking represented a huge blow to his programme. "We have lost all our front-line sails and our best racing mast, but we have faced adversity before. We were 3-1 down against Dennis Conner's *American Defender* in the 1983 Cup. We came back to fight another day and that's exactly how I feel right now."

Bertrand called on the Australian Prime Minister, Paul Keating, to ask the United States Navy to assist in salvaging what it can from the wreck. "If we could get our racing mast back that would be a start," he said.

The crew of *Mighty Mary* came perilously close to losing its boat after one of the structural ring frames broke and the hull began to delaminate. "Were we in danger of sinking?" Dawn Riley, who is in charge of the crew, asked herself. "Only if we fell off more waves — it was scary."

Despite the trouble, conditions off Point Loma were by no means extreme. Racing began in 15-knot winds and built up to 19.5 knots — one knot inside the official limit for starting a race. What caused all the damage were the seas, with three-foot waves conflicting with a four-foot Pacific swirl from the south-east. According to Bertrand, three crews requested that racing be abandoned. "We advised the race committee that we felt these conditions were unfit for these boats, as did *Team New Zealand* and the French. The wind velocity generally was within the agreed conditions, but at the time of sinking, we were recording 20-22 knots."

Harold Cudmore, the Briton who is advising *France III*, probably came closest to identifying the cause of the problems. Speaking about *oneAustralia*, he said: "She was a very fast boat, but did the Australians buy that performance at a cost to engineering?"

During the last cup series here, three years ago, the winds rarely exceeded 12 knots and more often were in the six to ten knot range. This year, however, conditions have proved much tougher and Bertrand admitted: "These boats are built light. The loads are extremely high. It is always a constant push to make them lighter, more high performance." In the case of *oneAustralia*, it seems that the designers and builders made one push too many.



The stricken *oneAustralia*, her hull cracked in two, sinks as crew members are hauled to safety off San Diego. Photograph: ACTV



Bertrand: defiant

RADIO CHOICE

An old game, a new name

New Spies for Old? *Radio 4, 8.30pm.*

Not all the contributors to Christopher Andrew's assessment of Russia's intelligence services in the mid-1990s struck me as being as open-hearted as Andrew. The history professor at Cambridge University does not balk at mentioning that Cambridge was notorious for furnishing the Soviet Union with some of its best spies. Although some of the former Soviet intelligence bosses try hard to allay our suspicions about the professed morality of the KGB's successors, others imply that it is premature to write three other letters — RIP — after the initials KGB. They are not fooled by the fact that Russia's counter-espionage services are now democratically sheltering under an umbrella bearing yet another set of initials, FSK.

Wartime at the National Gallery. *Radio 3, 1.00pm.*

Musically, there is one enterprise that simply could not have been ignored in Radio 3's series about life in Britain in the 1940s. It is the chamber music concerts at the National Gallery in London. They went on, at lunchtime, throughout the war. As morale boosters, they were musical events without compare. Capacity audiences testified to the fact. In our collective memory, one performer in particular is bracketed with these concerts, the pianist Myra Hess who organised them, and was made a dame in recognition of her services. The programme today, the second in a series, pays tribute to this remarkable woman and her fellow music-makers. Peter Davalle

RADIO 1

FM Stereo. 4.00am Clive Warren 5.30 Steve Wright 9.00 Simon Mayo 12.00 Lisa L'Anson, incl at 12.30-12.45pm Newsbeat, and at 1.15 The Net 2.00 Nicky Campbell 4.00 Mark Goodier, incl at 5.30-5.45 Newsbeat 7.00 Evening Session 9.00 Bruce Dickinson 10.00 Mark Radcliffe Midnight Lynn Parsons

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. 6.00am Sarah Kennedy 8.15 Pause for Thought 7.30 Wake Up to Wogan 9.15 Pause for Thought 9.30 Ken Bruce, incl at 10.00 Pick of the Hits 11.30 Jimmy Young 2.00pm Fiona Armstrong 3.30 Ed Stewart 5.05 John Dunn 7.00 Hayes Over Britain: call 01645 286291 8.30 My Mammy and Me 9.00 The Tea Dance 10.00 Explorer 2 10.30 The Jamesons 12.05am Steve Madden 1.30 Pause for Thought 3.00 Alex Lester

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports, incl at 5.45 Wake Up to Money 6.00 The Breakfast Programme, incl at 6.55 and 7.55 Racing Preview 8.35 The Magazine, incl at 10.35 Euronews; 11.00 Dirty News 12.00 Midday with Mair, incl at 12.34pm Liz Barclay with Moneycheck 2.05 Ruscoe on Five, incl at 3.15 Prime Minister's Question Time 4.00 John Inverdale Nationwide 7.00 News incl at 7.20 Sport 7.35 The Tuesday Match: Championship contenders Manchester United in action 10.05 News Talk 11.00 Night Extra, incl at 11.45 Financial World Tonight 12.05am After Hours 2.05 Up All Night, with Rhod Sharp

TALK RADIO

6.00am Maurice Dee and Carol McGiffin 10.00 Scott Chisholm 1.00pm Anna Raeburn 3.00 Tommy Boyd 7.00 Samantha Meah and Sean Bolger 10.00 Caesar the Geezer 1.00am Wild Al Kelly

WORLD SERVICE

All times in GMT. 4.30am BBC English 4.45 Fruhmagazin 5.00 Newshour 6.00 Morgenmagazin 6.30 Europe Today 7.00 News 7.15 Off the Shelf 7.30 New Ideas 7.50 What Is . . ? 8.00 News 8.10 Faith 8.15 Recital 9.00 News 9.05 Business Report 9.15 Essential Qur'an 9.30 On Screen 9.45 Sport 10.00 News 10.01 Discovery 10.30 That was the Year... 11.00 Newsdesk 11.30 BBC English 11.45 Mittagsmagazin 12.00 News 12.10pm Faith 12.15 Multitrack 12.45 Sport 1.00 News 2.05 Outlook 2.30 Off the Shelf2.45 Turning a Tune 3.00 News 3.15 A Jolly Good Show 4.00 News 4.15 BBC English 4.30 Heute Aktuell 5.00 News 5.05 Business Report 5.15 BBC English 6.00 Newsdesk 6.30 Heute Aktuell 7.00 News 7.05 Outlook 7.30 World of Music 8.00 News 8.10 Faith 8.15 World Today 8.30 Europe Today 9.00 Newshour 10.00 News 10.05 Business Report 10.15 Megamix 10.45 Sport 11.00 Newsdesk 11.30 Omnibus 12.00 News 12.15am Recital 1.00 News 1.05 Outlook 1.30 Contemporaries of Christ 1.45 Country Style 2.00 Newsdesk 2.30 World of Music 3.00 News 3.15 Sport 3.30 Discovery 4.00 Newsdesk

CLASSIC FM

6.00am Nick Bailey 9.00 Robert Booth 12.00 Susannah Simons 2.00pm Lunchtime Concerto 3.00 Jamie Crick 6.00 Classic Reports 7.00 The Opera Guide 8.00 Evening Concert: Celebrating the 120th anniversary of Ravel's birth. Ravel (Introduction and Allegro; Gaspard de la Nuit; Piano Concerto in G; Piano Trio;, Shéhérazade) 10.00 Michael Mappin 1.00am André Leon

VIRGIN

6.00am Russ 'n' Jono 9.00 Richard Skinner 12.00 Graham Dene 4.00pm Wendy Lloyd 7.00 Paul Coyte 11.00 Nick Abbot 2.00am Jenny Lee Grace

RADIO 3

6.30am **Open University:** Managing Schools
6.55 Weather
7.00 **On Air.** 7.05 Cherubini (Overture: Anacréon); Tallis (In ieiunio et fletu); Mendelssohn (Violin Sonata in F minor, Op 4); 8.05 Rodrigo (A l'ombre de Torre Bermeja); Mozart (Il mio tesoro — Don Giovanni); Hamilton Harty (Ode to a Nightingale)
9.00 **Composers of the Week: Swedish Romantics.** Hugo Alfven (Symphony No 3: The Mountain King; The Forest Sleeps)
10.00 **Musical Encounters:** Handel (Concerto grosso in G, Op 3 No 3); Bach (Motet: Fürchte dich nicht, BWV 228); Bax (Northern Ballad No 2); 11.20 *Mendelssohn (Fantasy in F sharp minor, Op 28 — Sonate écossaise). Artist of the week:* Steven Isserlis, cello. Tavener (Eternal Memory); Tallis (Motet: Suscipe quaeso Domine)
12.00 **Music Restored:** Baroque chamber music by Florilegium. Leclair (Deuxième récréation de musique); Handel (Trio Sonata in G, Op 5 No 4); Vivaldi (Concerto in G minor, RV104, La notte); Telemann (Concerto a 4 in A minor) (r)
1.00pm **The Forties: Wartime at the National Gallery.** See Choice
2.00 **Schools:** Playtime 2.15 Time to Move 2.35 Listen!
3.00 **The Forties: France in the 1940s.** Roger Nichols presents music by Honegger, Milhaud, Boulez and Messiaen
5.00 **The Music Machine:** Tommy Pearson with the London Gabrieli Brass Ensemble
5.15 **In Tune,** with Lynn Walker: Borodin (Polovtsian Dances — Prince Igor); Rameau (Suite: Les Indes galantes); 6.40 Françaix (Suite: L'horloge de flore); Britten (Overture: Canadian Carnival)
7.30 **Pebble Mill:** Live from Birmingham. London Baroque plays music by J.S. Bach and sons. C.P.E. Bach (Trio Sonata in B flat, Wq158); J.S. Bach (Prelude and Fugue in E flat minor, BWV 853 — The Well-Tempered Klavier, Bk I; Prelude and Fugue in G, BWV 884, Bk II); J.C.F. Bach (Trio Sonata in F, HW7 No 6); J.C. Bach (String Quartet No 1 in D); 8.10 Interval; 8.30 J. C. F. Bach (Cello Sonata in G); W. F. Bach (Harpsichord Concerto in F, F44)
9.00 **The Forties: Music at War.** Stephen Johnson on music before, during and after the Second World War
9.20 **Intersections,** with John Woolrich. Machaut (Messe de Nostre Dame); Messiaen (Messe de la Pentecôte); Hildegard of Bingen (songs)
10.45 **Night Waves:** Roy Porter talks to Richard Klein, author of *Cigarettes Are Sublime*, about the history of smoking
11.30pm-12.30am **The BBC Orchestras:** BBC Scottish SO under Fedor Glushchenko. Mozart (Overture: Die Zauberflöte); Dvořák (Symphony No 6 in D)
1.00-2.40 **Night School:** Triple Bill — Comfort Herself: Part 2 1.30 Poetry of Passion 2.00 Dance Resource for PE: Dance of Death

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping Forecast 6.00 News Briefing; Weather 6.10 Farming Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day 6.30 Today, incl 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 News 6.55 Weather 7.25, 8.25 Sport 7.45 Thought for the Day 7.55 Weather 8.40 Yesterday in Parliament 8.58 Weather
9.00 **News** 9.05 **Call Nick Ross.** 0171-580 4444
10.00 **News; Tales from the Back of Beyond** (FM only): Paraguay
10.00 **Daily Service** (LW only)
10.15 **Something Understood** (LW only)
10.30 **Woman's Hour:** Felicity Kendal talks about her role in Tom Stoppard's *Indian Ink*. Plus the start of a new serial: *Who Will Run the Frog Hospital?* by Lorne Moore
11.30 **Medicine Now,** with Geoff Watts
12.00 **News; You and Yours,** with Daire Brehan
12.25pm **Word of Mouth: Language in the Dock.** Frank Delaney returns with the programme about English and how we speak it. This week: English in the service of crime — and detection 12.55 Weather
1.00 **The World at One**
1.40 **The Archers** (r) 1.55 Shipping Forecast
2.00 **News; Thirty Minute Theatre: It's Cold Outside,** by Eric Pringle. Ray wakes to find himself trapped inside his car in a snowdrift without a clue as to his identity or how he came to be there. With Kenneth Cranham
2.30 **Conversation Piece:** Sue MacGregor meets Rivka Golani, the Israeli-born viola player (r)
3.00 **News; The Afternoon Shift**
4.00 **News** 4.05 **Kaleidoscope** talks to the author Hanif Kureishi and reviews the Northern Ballet production of *The Brontës*
4.45 ***Short Story: Pedestrian,*** by Elspeth Davie. At a motorway service station, a couple meet a young man who admits that he does not own a car. Read by Anne Downie
5.00 **PM** 5.50 Shipping Forecast 5.55 Weather
6.00 **Six O'Clock News**
6.30 **The Board Game:** Nigel Cassidy chairs the business quiz. On the panel: Peter Day, Howard Hodgson, Alastair Ross Goobey and Nigel Whittaker
7.00 **News** 7.05 **The Archers**
7.20 **File on 4.** Stuart Simon reports
8.00 **Science Now** (r)
8.30 ***New Spies for Old?*** **Whatever Happened to the KGB?** See Choice
9.00 **In Touch:** For people with a visual handicap
9.30 ***Kaleidoscope*** *(r) 9.59* Weather
10.00 **The World Tonight**
10.45 **Book at Bedtime: Archy and Mehitabel** (2/6)
11.00 **Medicinewave** (r)
11.30 **Four Corners** (FM only): On the Hoof. William Green travels to Iceland's Landsmot Festival, where horse-riders gather to party, and Jasper Winn tracks down the Spanish vaqueros (r)
11.30 **Today in Parliament** (LW)
12.00-12.43am **News** Incl 12.27 Weather 12.33 Shipping— 12.43 As World Service (LW)

RADIO 1: FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2: FM-88-90.2. RADIO 3: FM-90.2-92.4. RADIO 4: 198kHz/1515m; FM-92.4-94.6; LW 198. RADIO 5: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m. LONDON RADIO: 1152kHz/261m; FM 97.3. CAPITAL: 1548kHz/194m; FM-95.8. GLR: FM 94.9; WORLD SERVICE: MW 648kHz/463m. CLASSIC FM: FM-100-102. VIRGIN: MW-1215, 1197, 1242 kHz. TALK RADIO: MW 1089, 1053kHz Listings compiled by Linda Galloway and Sarah Harding

Bobek qualifies and breaks the ice in style

Simon Barnes enjoys the performance of a figure skater under considerable pressure

Ice skating is a sport that thrives on simple characterisation; like all other sports. So, when the news broke a couple of weeks back that Nicole Bobek had been in trouble with the law, had pleaded guilty to "home invasion", and been placed on probation, she became at once the new bad girl of American skating, never mind that the case has now been dismissed.

A girl from the wrong side of the tracks, nicknamed Brass Knuckles as a headline writer's dream, what more could anyone want? Well, the notorious *National Enquirer* magazine offered a double-page spread alleging a gladiatorial life of sexual promiscuity. The heir to Tonya Harding was with us; and the figure skating world championships were only just beginning in Birmingham.

Qualifying day yesterday, and Bobek was required to do her stuff. Anyone who expected four minutes of raw aggression — Dirty Harry on Ice, you don't enter her into a skating competition, you just turn her loose — was a little taken aback.

For, instead, we got four minutes of grace. Female skaters, physically slight as well as frighteningly young, tend, when in doubt, towards a dreadful winsomeness. On ice, Bobek, long limbed, is a woman in maturity and not a cute little girl.

And she is still only 17. Before her skate, she stood surprisingly still, hands on hips, legs apart, exuding pure self confidence. In fact, the routine itself had a scattering of minor errors. In the competition proper, she will make them again, or she will lift her performance unrecognisably. That is how you tell a very good skater from a champion. It is all still before her.

Yesterday she took the first ordeal of the day in her stride; not the best she can skate, perhaps, but a class above anyone else on view. The second ordeal she performed like a champion. That was the press conference.

An odd thing happens to female skaters when they step off the ice. They seem to shrink by a good six inches, and to shed almost a dozen years. But Bobek still managed to rise above this diminishment.

She began by reading out a brief statement: "... it's been a very difficult two weeks for me. I've grown a lot as a result ... I want to put this behind me and focus on the championship."

She then raised her head and proceeded to charm everyone in sight. This was not the sexual *blitzkreig* technique of Katarina Witt, but she was sassy and fearless, and also surprisingly honest in her self assessment:

"I wasn't as artistic as I usually am, I was pushing through the programme. I was treating this as an everyday practice. I had a couple of problems, I was really pleased that they didn't interfere with the overall programme. This isn't something that has always happened."

Her coach, Richard Callaghan, sat beside her. Bobek continued: "I've been growing up. Listening a lot more. Mr Callaghan has guided me the right way — and I have put 100 per cent in to doing it the right way." And, all at once, she turned challengingly to Callaghan. "Haven't I?"

She set the room on a roar with this sally. She had softened us all up beautifully. And, after a little tribute to the people who have supported her during hard times, she went off, her sparkiness undimmed, the most self-possessed 17-year-old in the whole of Birmingham.

Bobek doesn't fit the Tonya Harding bill at all. She won't have a second career posing provocatively beside trucks and promoting female wrestlers. She lacks the chippiness, the sense of defiance that Harding has always carried with her; the sense of being, in the final analysis, one of the losers.

Hemingway's definition of courage — grace under pressure — always comes to the mind at big skating events. Bobek has that quality both on the ice and under questioning. But now the pressure really starts to build.

HUGH ROUTLEDGE



Bobek impressed all who saw her qualify for the world figure skating championships in Birmingham yesterday

Sharks seek the big fish in Europe

BY NICHOLAS HARLING

SHEFFIELD Sharks will represent England in Europe next season, no matter what. The decision was taken by their board within hours of the club celebrating its first season in the Budweiser League by capturing the national cup with a stirring performance in the final against Thames Valley Tigers.

After the Sharks had overcome the Tigers 89-66 at the Sheffield Arena on Sunday, Chris Wright, their joint owner, said: "If we win the league we will play in the European Champions Cup, but I'd be just as happy to play in the Cup Winners' Cup.

"We could get killed by some of the stronger clubs in the champions cup, but if we play the way we did on Sunday, we'd give anyone a decent game."

Besides the extra incentive of going into the Champions Cup as winners of the league — which they lead — the Sharks would have the added bonus of entering the McDonald's Open in London next October when they would meet the NBA winners as well as the leading clubs from Europe and Australia.

By going into Europe, Sheffield know they will be taking a risk that Worthing Bears, for instance, felt was not worth pursuing in each of the past two seasons after they had followed up their league title triumph in 1993 with a cup success last season. The Bears, who are run by accountants, solicitors and bankers, did not want to gamble being drawn against opponents from Lithuania, a costly venture with no financial return.

"Let's hope that we're drawn against a French club or even one from Greece, because a club like Panathinaikos could bring up to 3,000 supporters with it," Wright said.

Roger Huggins led the Sharks to their surprisingly comfortable victory with 29 points, but all his young teammates were impressive. "For a team that's wet behind the ears, it was a great performance," Jim Brandon, the Sharks coach, said. "I hope that we can represent the new generation."

Lu Chen suffers by comparison

BY JOHN HENNESSY

NICOLE BOBEK, aptly fulfilling her role as the combative newcomer to women's figure skating, delivered a first-round knockout blow on the opening day of the world championships at the National Exhibition Centre in Birmingham yesterday. If, as many believe, the world title that is to be decided next Saturday rests among Bobek, Lu Chen, of China, and Surya Bonaly, of France, then the field has effectively already been reduced to two, unless there is a reversal of form in the next four days.

Though not quite at her best, Bobek was a clear winner over Chen in the qualifying competition yesterday. Bonaly, unlike the two others, was spared this ordeal by virtue of her silver medal in last year's event.

Bobek intended to add the rarely seen combination of one foot axel-triple salchow to the programme that won her United States national title in January, but it failed her yesterday, as did one or two other moves. Nevertheless, her class was there for all to see, with liquid movements of body and arms and powerful control of those elements that did obey her command.

However, Chen, who seems to have undergone some westernisation at the behest of Toller Cranston, of Canada, now a celebrated choreographer, was a bigger disappointment and, although the artistry is there, it was accompanied by a failure of attack.

Jenna Arrowsmith, at 14 the unexpected British champion, was thirteenth of 18 skaters and would have passed into oblivion but for the rule that allows the host country one competitor through to the final free skating. All three projected triple jumps eluded her.

The championships proper open today with the compulsory dances, featuring the return of Oksana Grischuk and Evgeny Platov, of Russia, who attracted universal opprobrium in this country last year by winning the Olympic gold medal instead of Torvill and Dean.

TODAY'S PROGRAMME: 11.0: compulsory dances. 6.30: opening ceremony 7.15: pairs short programme.

WORD WISE No 1,747

Answers from page 40

PACU
(a) A large, vegetarian, freshwater fish, *Colossoma nigripinnis*, belonging to the family Characidae and native to the northern parts of South America. "Pacu, 71 cm., 28 inches. This fish comes from the Amazon. Body colour is silver. The dorsal and anal fins are red in colour."

PREDACIOUS
(c) Preying upon, predatory, also used of parasitic fungi which actually kill their hosts, from the Latin *predax*. "The activities of the predacious fungi have been much investigated in the hope that they could provide an effective means of controlling root parasitic eelworms."

ROSELLA
(a) A brightly coloured seed-eating Australian parakeet belonging to the genus *Platycercus*. "Thither were transferred the assortment of rosellas and grass parrots that had in one way or another fallen into captivity."

OSBORNITE
(c) Titanium nitride, TiN, found as small yellow octahedra in oldhamite in the meteorite which fell at Bustee, India. Eponym of George Osborne. "The only nitrogen mineral recorded from meteorites is osbornite, TiN, a rare accessory known only from Bustee (an enstatite achondrite)."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE
1, . . . Bb2+!; 2, Kxb2 (2, Nxb2 Qc3 mate) 2, . . . Rxb3+; 3, axb3 Qxb3+; 4, Ka1 Nc2 mate.

حكذا من الاصل

La Plante offers Dolly mixture as before

REVIEW



Matthew Bond

Question. How do you pick up the threads of a television story, the last episode of which went out ten years ago? Answer. Very, very slowly — nothing remotely challenging or exciting should happen for at least the first hour.

That, at least, appears to be the view of Lynda La Plante, the writer of **She's Out** (ITV), a six-part serial that attempts to pick up where *Widows 2* left off. Slowly, slowly may catchee monkee but, if La Plante is right, it also catchee your target audience — women nursing a secret desire to be bank robbers and jewel thieves.

Quite where that leaves us men for the next six weeks, I'm not sure — in the spare room watching repeats of *Bottom* on the portable, I expect. For certainly we are a little excluded from the extraordinary world that La Plante has created for the return from incarceration of her heroine, Dolly Rawlins: armed robber, jewel thief and husband murderer (there you are, the plot of *Widows, 1* and *2* in seven words).

It's the sort of world where inmates of a women's prison break into spontaneous choruses of *There is Nothing Like a Dame* in the communal showers: the sort of world where a rotting and derelict nursing home can be made habitable in the space of a day and the sort of world where women float down stairs in their best frock saying things like "can we all synchronise watches". Dolly Rawlins may be out of Holloway, but she has walked straight into Malory Towers.

Even the prison governor seemed be suffering from a nasty dose of jolly hockey sticks, as she bade farewell: "There will be a lot of girls who will miss you, Dolly." Just for a brief second reality threatened to rear its head, with Dolly imparting a few home-truths about "heavy-duty dykes", but then it was straight back to escapism as normal — a sentimental banging-out and a white Rolls-Royce to fantasyland.

But if a television writer as accomplished as La Plante abandons reality, she does so quite deliberately. If her policemen have been chosen for their buns rather than their badinage — "what did she pull anyway, a robbery?" "No, the trigger" — then so be it. Slowly, surely and, all right, rather sillily, La Plante spun a web designed to keep her devotees stuck to their armchairs for the next five Mondays. Having introduced our heroine to a new gang of female accomplices and us to the news that her £6 million cache of stolen diamonds is long gone, it surely cannot be long before Dolly and the gels return to a life of crime. In other words: *Dolly pulls its off* — again.

Over on BBC 2, **Ruling Passions** continued to fascinate and inadvertently amuse in fairly equal proportions. Given that its chosen subject was the spread of venereal disease through the British Empire, that it fascinated at all was a quite an achievement for the directors, Alex West and David Wilson. But the story of the short-lived days of the regimental brothel is a good one — when an Indian regiment wasn't a regiment without its own harem of licensed harlots and orders weren't orders unless they sought "extra attractive women in accordance with circular memo 21a". Any sense of moral outrage, you rather got the impression, had long faded.

It was a very different picture, however, that the programme painted in Africa, where the attitude of British colonialists to prostitution and venereal disease was blamed for everything from racial segregation (possibly) to the modern Aids epidemic (an obvious but unconvincing afterthought). Such provocative arguments require a bit of serious thought and Michael Jackson, the controller of BBC 2, has done the programme no favours by scheduling directly after his smut hour, *Bottom* and *Game On*. In the wake of such prolonged exposure to schoolboy silliness, it is quite difficult to take lines such as "from the earliest days of British expansion, the threat of venereal disease was ever present" very seriously.

But it was the old empire hands who volunteered for sexual reminiscing duties who were the stars. Some favoured the direct approach (anyone still in doubt about what little boys might do for a few rupees should consult the early novels of Simon Raven), others were still making unconvincing excuses decades after the event: "I got some of my officers to take me along one evening — just to see what went on. I'd never been in a brothel before."

Others still were charmingly circumspect: "We all got so physically fit you see, which had a slight drawback in that it made people wish to have female company in a way they might not have done had they not be so fit." And no cold showers, I suppose.

If it was sex that brought the British Empire to its knees (oh, for goodness sake, stop giggling) much the same can be said of the modern Catholic Church in Ireland. According to **Dancing at the Cross-roads** (BBC 2), a *Late Show* special, the recent spate of sex scandals has contributed significantly to the erosion of the Church's hitherto impregnable (I said stop it) position at the heart of Ireland's political establishment. The future, according to Fintan O'Toole's informative film, lies in that cultural melting pot that is Jack Charlton's Irish soccer team. "One of the great things about the Irish soccer team", explained Roddy Doyle, "was the inclusion of players who strictly speaking are not Irish."

But then this, of course, was the man whose previous celebration of Irishness went something along the lines of "Sing out long, sing out loud, we're black and we're proud." And just a little confused?

BBC1

6.00 Business Breakfast (64754)

7.00 BBC Breakfast News (95360026)

9.05 Kilroy. Studio discussion (s) (5411397)

10.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (7806378) **10.05 EastEnders — The Early Days** (r). (Ceefax) (8806281) **10.35 Good Morning with Anne and Nick**. Weekday magazine presented by Anne Diamond and Nick Owen (s) (7221945)

12.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (1664736) **12.05 Pebble Mill** (s) (7430649) **12.55 Regional News** and weather (15063755)

1.00 One O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (79910)

1.30 Neighbours. (Ceefax) (s) (77880129) **1.50 Going for Gold** (s) (77884945)

2.15 FILM: Perry Mason — The Case of the Lethal Lesson (1989) starring Raymond Burr and Barbara Hale. The legal eagle defends a young law student accused of murder. Directed by Christian I Nyby II. (Ceefax) (628484)

3.50 Jackanory. Kathy Burke with part one of *The Twits* (s) (8080823) **4.00 Willy Fogg**. (Ceefax) (9217620) **4.25 Grimmy** (4461804) **4.35 Incredible Games**. (Ceefax) (s) (1709939)

5.00 Newsround (6079007) **5.10 Grange Hill**. School drama series. (Ceefax) (s) (8116303)

5.35 Neighbours (r). (Ceefax) (s) (604910). **Northern Ireland:** Inside Ulster

6.00 Six O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (197)

6.30 Regional news magazines (587). **Northern Ireland:** Neighbours

7.00 Holiday. Reports from Torquay, a sail cruise around the Galapagos and skiing in Morzine, France (Ceefax) (s) (8378)

7.30 EastEnders. Bianca goes missing. (Ceefax) (s) (571)

8.00 A Question of Sport. David Coleman, Bill Beaumont and Ian Botham are joined by Darren Gough, Colin McRae, Tim Flowers and Judy Oakes. (Ceefax) (s) (7026)



Larry Grayson was game for a laugh (8.30pm)

8.30 Shut That Door — A Tribute to Larry Grayson. A celebration of the career of the camp comic performer. (Ceefax) (6533)

9.00 Nine O'Clock News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (5741)

9.30 CHOICE **Clive James — Postcard From Berlin**. (Ceefax) (s) (126842). **Wales:** Week In Week Out (36804) 10.00 Clive James (512115) 10.50 Omnibus (889674) 11.40-1.15am Film. Crossplot (704620).

10.20 Omnibus: Joshua Bell. A documentary profile of the young American violinist. (Ceefax) (174129). **Northern Ireland:** Country Times 10.45 29 Bedford Street 11.10 Omnibus 12.05am-1.40 Film: Crossplot

11.10 FILM: Crossplot (1969) starring Roger Moore. Thriller about a London advertising executive helping to stop an assassination attempt on a visiting African statesman. Directed by Alvin Rakoff (132194)

12.45am Weather (1860601)

BBC2

6.20 Open University: Maths (7443674) **6.45** Learning for All: Under the Walnut Tree (2206858) **7.10** From Child to Pupil (5416804) **7.35** Art in the 15th Century: Florence (5199129)

8.00 BBC Breakfast News. (Ceefax and signing) (6790939) **8.15 Westminster On-Line With Sir Bernard Ingham** (s) (4271262)

9.00 Daytime on Two: Standard Grade Geography (3200552) **9.25** Around Scotland (5555991) **9.45** You and Me (5637465) **10.00** Playdays (8997587) **10.25** English Express (1945823) **10.45** The Experimenter (4178378) **11.05** Space Ark (6941378) **11.15** Music Makers (6060216) **11.35** Seeing Through Science (9480129) **12.00** See Hear! (39084) **12.30** Working Lunch (47910) **1.00** Teaching Today (77552) **1.30** Q and A (25377620) **1.40** You and Me (66543262) **1.45** Numbers Plus (25396755) **2.00** Gordon T. Gopher (87132552)

2.10 Horizon: Exodus (r) (Ceefax) (s) (3265216)

3.00 News and weather followed by **Westminster with Nick Ross**. (Ceefax) (4399571) **3.50 News** (Ceefax), regional news and weather (8088465)

4.00 Today's the Day Recent history quiz (s) (200)

4.30 Ready, Steady, Cook (s) (484)

5.00 Esther Studio discussion series (s) (9484)

5.30 Catchword (736)

6.00 Fresh Prince of Bel Air (s) (144194)

6.25 Heartbreak High (Ceefax) (s) (597113)

7.10 The Tick. Animated adventures (s) (797620)

7.30 NEW **The Knowledge**. Lifting the lid on education. (Ceefax) (s) (113)

8.00 Public Eye: Silent Partners. Looking after relatives suffering from severe mental illness. (Ceefax) (5668)



Madhur Jaffrey begins a culinary tour (8.30pm)

8.30 CHOICE **Madhur Jaffrey's Flavours of India** (Ceefax) (s) (2213)

9.00 Murder Most Horrid II A Severe Case of Death. Black comedy (r). (Ceefax) (s) (8113)

9.30 World Figure Skating Championships from Birmingham (62303)

10.30 Newsnight (Ceefax) (773194)

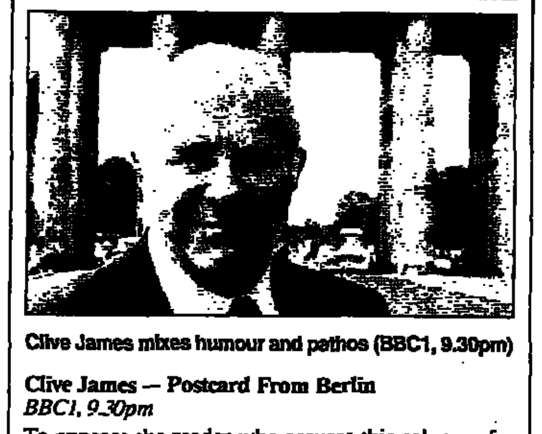
11.15 The Late Show. An assessment of the influence of the Government-funded television advertisements in Northern Ireland (s) (731858) **11.55 Weather** (344674) **12.00 Modern Art**. Musée D'Orsay (4580885)

12.25am Introduction to Computer Aided Design (4583972) **12.55 The Record**. The day in Parliament (s) (3040205). Ends at **1.20**

2.00-4.00 Night School: Modern Languages (70601)

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CHOICE



Clive James mixes humour and pathos (BBC1, 9.30pm)

Clive James — Postcard From Berlin
BBC1, 9.30pm

To appease the reader who accuses this column of a campaign against the balding Australian, let me say that his latest *Postcard* contains one of his funniest routines as well as a numbing moment when jokes are laid aside and the brutality of the Third Reich comes starkly to the surface. The running gag is built around the Trabant car, an evil-smelling rattletrap that has been swept away with the rest of the former East Germany. An obvious prop it might be, but James exploits it brilliantly. Abruptly switching the mood, he shows us the prison where opponents of Hitler were confined and the hooks from which they were hanged. Easy giggles at a nudist beach soon follow but even at his most flippant, James is never dull.

Madhur Jaffrey's Flavours of India
BBC2, 8.30pm

Promising an "endless array of magically spiced foods", Madhur Jaffrey begins a culinary tour of India in Kerala. Here is the land of spices, but also the land of coconuts. Both feature strongly in Jaffrey's dishes, cooked out of doors in the manner of Keith Floyd. The frequent diversions into topography and culture are also Floydian although here the similarity ends. Jaffrey may be an actress but she makes Floyd seem like a ham, and not the sort you eat. She is, all the same, an enthusiastic presenter who knows her subject down to the last grain of black pepper. As usual, everything is done far too quickly for the recipes to be taken down. But, you will not be surprised to learn, there is an accompanying book.

Network First: Hollywood Vice
ITV, 10.40pm

For 25 years, the unfortunately-named Fred Clapp was a detective with the Los Angeles police. His speciality was the vice trade and his daily contact was with hookers, pimps and madams. Inventive and resourceful, he organised stings which have passed into LA legend. He once arrested 23 call-girls by luring them to a non-existent party. He made a colleague dress as an Ethiopian prince to help a drugs bust. But work became an obsession. Clapp admits that he felt more comfortable with police life than at home. The penalties were two failed marriages and strained relationships with his sons. The testimonies of the wives, the sons, fellow cops and a gravel-voiced madam make their contribution to a garish story.

Without Walls
Channel 4, 9.00pm

The restaurant critic of *The Times* takes over the *J'Accuse* slot to let us know where he stands on vegetarians. In a shell, Jonathan Meades thinks they are nuts, and sanctimonious with it. He even brings in Adolf Hitler, "the most influential vegetarian of the 20th century", a lover of animals but not of human beings if they happened to be Jews or political dissidents. Vegetarians hit back by comparing battery chicken farms to the gas chambers of Auschwitz. Which should give the flavour of a film that is lively, combative and often very funny. The same cannot be said for the other *Without Walls* offering, a ponderous examination of sports car design under the misleading title of *Auto Erotic*.

Peter Waymark

CARLTON

6.00am GMTV (7862533)

9.25 Chain Letters (s) (3207465) **9.55 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (8801736)

10.00 The Time ... the Place with John Stapleton (s) (7009216)

10.35 This Morning (26666587) **12.20pm London Today** (Teletext) and weather (1653620)

12.30 ITN Lunchtime News (Teletext) and weather (2205303)

12.55 Emmerdale (r). (Teletext) (2117194) **1.25 Home and Away** (Teletext) (57024910)

1.55 Vanessa. Vanessa Feltz talks to people who are, or have been, obsessed by a star (Teletext) (s) (35067303) **2.25 A Country Practice** (s) (74761484) **2.50 Blue Heelers** (7352858)

3.20 ITN News headlines. (Teletext) (6018397) **3.25 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (6017668)

3.30 The Magic House (s) (2255587) **3.40 Tots TV** (s) (8086007) **3.50 Twinkle the Dream Being** (r) (s) (8075991) **4.00 Budgie the Little Helicopter** (8104007) **4.15 The Dreamstone** (Teletext) (s) (6422194) **4.40 Chris Cross** (Teletext) (s) (9056281)

5.10 After 5 (Teletext) (6287910)

5.40 ITN Early Evening News (Teletext) and weather (954552)

5.55 Your Shout. Viewers' opinions (877910)

6.00 Home and Away (r). (Teletext) (303)

6.30 London Tonight (Teletext) (755)

7.00 Emmerdale (Teletext) (9674)

7.30 Saint and Greavsie's World of Sport. Ian St John and Jimmy Greaves present classic sporting moments from the 1970s (939)

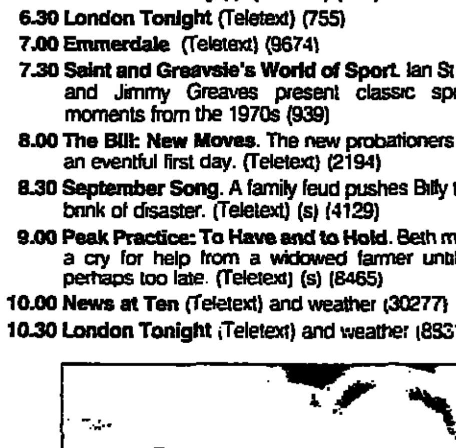
8.00 The Bill: New Moves. The new probationers have an eventful first day. (Teletext) (2194)

8.30 September Song. A family feud pushes Billy to the brink of disaster. (Teletext) (s) (4129)

9.00 Peak Practice: To Have and to Hold. Beth misses a cry for help from a widowed farmer until it is perhaps too late. (Teletext) (s) (8465)

10.00 News at Ten (Teletext) and weather (30277)

10.30 London Tonight (Teletext) and weather (893113)



Veteran vice detective Fred Clapp (10.40pm)

10.40 CHOICE **Network First: Hollywood Vice**. (Teletext) (s) (432200)

11.40 Prisoner Cell Block H (453216)

12.45am FILM: Three on a Match (1987). A wrongly imprisoned man teams up with two other convicts and escapes across country. Directed by Don Bellisano (415408)

2.30 The Little Picture Show (8678953)

3.25 America's Top Ten (s) (68299663)

3.50 Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (r) (17624595)

4.20 On the Live Side featuring Tuck and Patti, Phil Perry, Bob James and Ernie Watts (s) (61208750)

4.30 Videofashion An exploration into the connection between music and fashion (40798)

5.00 Vanessa (r) (s) (26084)

5.30 ITN Morning News (65972). Ends at **6.00**

CHANNEL 4

6.35 Sandokan (r) (2200674)

7.00 The Big Breakfast (69533)

9.00 You Bet Your Life (r) (s) (12736)

9.30 Schools: Eureka! (5634) **9.45** Stop, Look Listen (5622533) **10.00** Fourways Farm (7813668) **10.10** Maths Everywhere (1951484) **10.25** Time Capsule (1930991) **10.45** Coming Together (4977552) **11.00** Science in Focus (4371705) **11.22** Stage One (6591991) **11.38** Schools at Work (5189533) **11.45** First Edition (4203858)

12.00 House To House. Political magazine series chaired by Maya Even (25200)

12.30 Sesame Street. Entertaining early learning (78533) **1.30 Widget** (r) (s) (35984026)

1.55 Pete Smith Specialties (b/w). *Curious Contests* takes a look at odd games from around the world, *Tips on Trips* offers advice to soldiers when sent abroad (77703026)

2.20 FILM: The Moon Is Down (1943, b/w) starring Cedric Hardwicke. A Second World War propaganda film about the Norwegian Resistance movement. Directed by Irving Pichel (705587)

4.00 Profiles of Nature: The Grey Seals of Sable Island. A wildlife documentary in which a team of experts from Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia, filmed the annual migration of the grey seal herds to Sable Island, off Nova Scotia (r) (668)

4.30 Countdown. (Teletext) (s) (552)

5.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show The guests are a mother and the nanny she fired because she thought she was usurping her role. (Teletext) (s) (8122113)

5.50 Terrytoons Classic cartoons (867533)

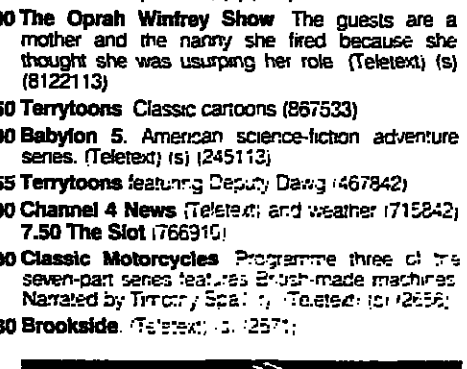
6.00 Babylon 5. American science-fiction adventure series. (Teletext) (s) (245113)

6.55 Terrytoons featuring Deputy Dawg (467842)

7.00 Channel 4 News (Teletext) and weather (715842) **7.50 The Slot** (766910)

8.00 Classic Motorcycles Programme three of the seven-part series features British-made machines. Narrated by Timothy Spall (r) (Teletext) (s) (2656)

8.30 Brookside. (Teletext) (s) (2571)



Jonathan Meades on fruit and veg (9.30pm)

9.00 CHOICE **Without Walls: Auto Erotic** (3281) **9.30 J'accuse the Vegetarians** (52842)

10.00 FILM: Close My Eyes (1990) starring Alan Rickman, Saskia Reeves and Clive Owen. A drama about a brother and sister who are drawn to one another. Directed by Stephen Poliakoff. (Teletext) (4533)

12.00 The Obituary Show A mock celebratory obituary of Sir Jimmy Savile (r) (s) (8017885)

12.35am Football Italia — Mezzanotte. Highlights of Reggiana v Genoa (2397779)

1.35 Blood Sweat and Glory. A history of martial arts (r) (s) (2223427)

2.05 FILM: Black Eyes (1939, b/w) starring Otto Kruger and Mary Maguire. A drama set in pre-Revolutionary Moscow about the head waiter of a fashionable restaurant. Herbert Brenon directs (4165866). Ends **3.25**

VARIATIONS

ANGLIA

As London except: 1.55 A Country Practice (77705484) **2.50-3.20** Blockbusters (7352858) **3.25-3.30** Anglia News and Weather (6017668) **5.10-5.40** Shortland Street (6287910) **6.25-7.00** Anglia Weather followed by Anglia News (863668) **7.30-8.00** Food Guide (939) **10.30-10.40** Anglia News (883113) **12.35am** The Life and Times of Judge Roy Bean (96534311) **2.45** The Little Picture Show (7579311) **3.40** The Beat (8406175) **4.30-5.00** Travel Trails (40798)

CENTRAL

As London except: 1.55 A Country Practice (77705484) **2.50-3.20** Blockbusters (7352858) **5.10-5.40** Shortland Street (6287910) **6.25-7.00** Central News and Weather (863668) **7.30-8.00** Heart of the Country (939) **10.30-10.40** Central News and Weather (883113) **11.40-12.45pm** Crime Story (453216) **4.20am** Jobfinder (9239934) **5.20-5.30** Asian Eye (7387392)

GRANADA

As London except: 12.55 Shortland Street (2117194) **1.25** Home and Away (87734113) **1.50** Vanessa (35962804) **2.20** Gardeners' Diary (74753465) **2.50-3.20** Emmerdale (7352858) **3.30-3.40** The Magic House (2255587) **5.10-5.40** A Country Practice (6287910) **6.25** Granada Tonight (863668) **7.00** Emmerdale (9674) **7.30-8.00** The Main Ingredient (939) **10.30-10.40** Granada News (883113) **11.40** World Championship Boxing (453216) **12.45am** Three on a Match (415408) **2.30** The Little Picture Show (8678953) **3.25-3.50** America's Top Ten (68299663) **4.20** Jobfinder (5064866) **5.00-5.30** Vanessa (26084)

HTV WEST

As London except: 12.20pm-12.30 HTV West News and Weather (1653620) **2.25-** Wish You Were Here ...? (74752736) **2.55-3.20** Shortland Street (7195939) **5.10-5.40** Country Practice (6287910) **6.30-7.00** HTV News (755) **7.30-8.00** West Eye View (939) **10.30-10.40** HTV West Headlines and Weather (883113) **4.20am-5.00** Jobfinder (5064866)

HTV WALES

As HTV WEST except: 12.20pm-12.30 HTV Wales News and Weather (1653620) **6.30-** **3.25-3.30** HTV Wales News (6017668) **6.30-7.00** Wales Tonight (755) **7.30-8.00** Not One of Us - The Lives of David Lloyd George 1863-1945 (939) **10.30-10.40** HTV Wales News and Weather (883113)

MERIDIAN

As London except: 1.55 A Country Practice (77705484) **2.50-3.20** Shortland Street (7352858) **3.25-3.30** Meridian News and Weather (6017668) **5.10** Home and Away (6287910) **5.37-5.40** Three Minutes - Making It Happen (960674) **6.00** Meridian Tonight (303) **6.30-7.00** Surprise Chefs (755) **7.30-8.00** Serve You Right (939) **10.30-10.40** Meridian News and Weather (883113) **12.35am** The Life and Times of Judge Roy Bean (96534311) **2.45** The Little Picture Show (7579311) **3.40** The Beat (8406175) **4.30** Travel Trails (40798) **5.00-5.30** Freescreen (26084)

TYNE TEES

As London except: 1.55 A Country Practice (77705484) **2.50-3.20** Shortland Street (7352858) **5.10-5.40** Home and Away (6287910) **5.55** Tyne Tees Today (143281) **6.30-7.00** Crosswits (755) **7.30-8.00** Action Time (939) **10.30-10.40** Tyne Tees News (883113) **11.40** Kojak: Ariana (464465) **1.25am** The Little Picture Show (6898798) **2.25** Sport AM (6936089) **3.25** The Beat (3346427) **4.20-5.30** Jobfinder (6338663)

WESTCOUNTRY

As London except: 12.25-12.30 My Story (1878939) **2.25** The Young Doctors (74752736) **3.25-3.30** Westcountry News, Weather (6017668) **5.10-5.40** Home and Away (6287910) **6.00-7.00** Westcountry Live (59755) **7.30-8.00** Wild West Country (939) **10.30-10.40** Westcountry News; Weather (883113) **4.20am-5.00** Jobfinder (5064866)

YORKSHIRE

As London except: 1.55 A Country Practice (77705484) **2.50-3.20** Shortland Street (7352858) **5.10-5.40** Home and Away (6287910) **5.55** Calendar **6.30-7.00** Crosswits (755) **7.30-8.00** Action Time (939) **10.30-10.40** Calendar News and Weather (883113) **11.40** Kojak: Ariana (464465) **1.25am** The Little Picture Show (6898798) **2.25** Sport AM (6936089) **3.25** The Beat (3346427) **4.20-5.30** Jobfinder (6338663)

S4C

Starts: 7.00 The Big Breakfast (69533) **9.00** You Bet You (472200) **12.00pm** House To House (25200) **12.30** Slot Meithrin (49378) **1.00** Lillie (62620) **1.30** Hangin' With Mr Cooper (48649) **2.00** The Late Late Show (39858) **3.00** The Real Holiday Show (9007) **3.30** The Oprah Winfrey Show (2902649) **4.20** Tales Of A Wise King (4488571) **4.30** Saved By The Bell - The New Class (552) **5.00** 5 Pump (4552) **5.30** Countdown (804) **6.00** Newyddion (502194) **6.15** Heno (593397) **7.00** Pobol Y Cwm (7216) **7.30** Mbs O Dwn (261) **8.00** Dau Rhys (Ar Frys) (2656) **8.30** Newyddion (2571) **9.00** Cutting Edge: Amnesia (6007) **10.00** Brookside (30259) **10.30** Dim Talod (79465) **11.30** The Best Of The Tube (54113)

SATELLITE

SKY ONE

6.00am The DJ Kat Show (33129) **8.00** The Mighty Morphin Power Rangers (40533) **8.30** Blockbusters (49804) **9.00** The Oprah Winfrey Show (99571) **10.30** Card Sharks (62658) **11.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (15736) **12.00** The Urban Peasant (43620) **12.30pm** Anything but Love (92484) **1.00** St Elsewhere (97330) **2.00** Darlings of the Gods (62910) **3.00** The Oprah Winfrey Show (6496587) **3.50** The DJ Kat Show (3680026) **4.30** The Mighty Morphin Power Rangers (3552) **5.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (3465) **6.00** Gamesworld (7945) **6.30** Family Ties (5397) **7.00** Rescue (4194) **7.30** M*A*S*H (4281) **8.00** The X-Files (27194) **9.00** Models Inc (10858) **10.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (13945) **11.00** Late Show with David Letterman (938194) **11.50** Littlejohn (613533) **12.40am** Chances (3599576) **1.30** The New WKRP in Cincinnati (23393) **2.00-6.00** Hit Mix Long Play (2518412)

SKY NEWS

News on the hour.
6.00am Sunrise (1637991) **9.30** Fashion TV (36674) **10.30** ABC Nightline (50910) **1.30pm** CBS News (56213) **2.30** Parliament Live (62939) **6.05** Richard Littlejohn (19533262) **9.30** OJ Simpson Trial Live (763804) **12.30am** CBS News (9996156) **1.10** Entertainment This Week (3623738) **2.30** Parliament Replay (18717) **4.30** CBS News (26224) **5.30** ABC News (30682)

SKY MOVIES

6.15am Showcase (68073736) **10.00 Murder So Sweet** (1993) (96209) **12.00 Bushfire Moon** (1987) (96113) **2.00 Coneheads** (1993) (31397) **4.00 Dusty** (1982) (84133858) **5.55 Murder So Sweet** (1993) (27588842) **7.30 Close-Up** (6649) **8.00 Coneheads** As 2pm (58736) **9.30 All Shook Up!** (1993) (552129) **11.05 Jason Goes to Hell: The Final Friday** (1993) (824197) **12.35 Off and Running** (1990) (5869224) **2.05 Chud 2: Bud the Chud** (1989) (2861088) **3.30 Shattered Silence** (1992) (877595)

SKY MOVIES GOLD

6.00pm It Started with Eve (1941) (17755) **8.00-12.00 Giant** (1956) (3343823)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

6.00am That Kind of Woman (1959) (53339) **8.00 Beauty and the Beast** (3964262) **8.50 Sinbad** (4528459) **9.40 Lucy Gallant** (1955) (9435164) **11.30 Tarzan and the Lost Safari** (1957) (8721561) **12.55 Avalanche** (1978) (3282303) **2.00 Waterhole No. Three** (1967) (39339) **4.00 Beauty and the Beast:** As 8am (93228) **5.00 Sinbad**. As 8.50am (2503) **6.00 The Cutting Edge** (1992) (15303) **8.00 Sidekicks** (1993) (94568674) **9.35 Lethal Weapon 3** (1992) (628115) **11.35 Bugsy** (1991) (93419378) **1.50 A Passion for Murder** (1992) (564514) **3.25 Jumpin' at the Boneyard** (1991) Intense urban drama detailing the lives of two young brothers who live in the Bronx (19834330)

● **For more film information, see the Vision supplement, published Saturday**

SKY SPORTS

7.00am Soccer News (4953007) **7.15** WWF Mania (914303) **8.15** Soccer News (2976736) **8.30** World of Speed and Beauty (78755) **9.00** Snowboard Tour (69007) **9.30** Aerobics Oz Style (98007) **10.00** Golf: USA (56741) **12.00** Aerobics Oz Style (72571) **12.30pm** Monday Night Football: Liverpool v Southampton (96991) **2.30** US Grand Prix Athletics (99939) **4.30** Stunt Team Championship (8642) **5.00** WWF Superstars (2991) **6.00** Soccer News (673281) **6.15** Fish Tales (678736) **6.30** Grass Roots Rugby (2007) **7.00** Boots 'n' All (63910) **8.00** Pole Position (52858) **9.00** The Footballers' Football Show (69194) **10.00** Soccer News (358179) **10.15** Tartan Extra (432939) **11.15** Grass Roots Rugby (581484) **11.45** Fish Tales (913113) **12.00** Boots 'n' All (77392) **1.00-2.00am** Pole Position (61427)

EUROSPORT

7.30am Eurogolf Magazine (37736) **8.30** Aerobics (54755) **9.30** Dancing (87378) **10.30** Football (85736) **12.00** Live Figure Skating (1862823) **5.00pm** Football (67587) **6.30** Eurosport News (3303) **7.00** Live Figure Skating (489945) **10.00** Euroski (64649) **11.00** Snooker (45991) **12.00-12.30am** Eurosport News (22205)

SKY TRAVEL

12.00 Getaway — Australia (4482620) **12.30pm** Zoo Life (1788674) **1.00** Trailside — Make Your Own Adventure (3085129) **1.30** Cook Italian (1787945) **2.00** California's Gold (7278868) **2.30** Discover Your World (4114674) **3.00** American Vacation (4292939) **4.00** Travel Guide (4032026) **4.30** Zoo Life (4021910) **5.00** Roads to Freedom (7252620) **5.30** Cook Italian (4012262) **6.00** Getaway — Australia (4115303) **6.30** Ticket to Paradise (4033755) **7.00** Discover America (5304842) **8.00** Around the World in 30 Minutes (7252804) **8.30** Travel Guide (7277939) **9.00** Getaway — Australia (4023858) **9.30** Ticket to Paradise (1695910) **10.00** Discover America (5903113) **11.00** Roads to Freedom (4038303) **11.30-12.00** California's Gold (4553910)



Elizabeth Taylor stars in *Giant* (Sky Movies Gold, 8.00pm)

SKY SOAP

8.00am Loving (4489533) **8.30** Peyton Place (4488804) **9.00** As the World Turns (4694262) **10.00** Guiding Light (9998649) **11.00-12.00** Another World (9901113)

TLC

9.00am Room Service (2279736) **9.30** The Roux Brothers (5460552) **10.00** Jimmy's (2201910) **10.30** Only Human (1579113) **11.30** Discovering Psychology (3569115) **12.00** Youth Express (2282200) **12.30pm** House Style (5491668) **1.00** The Roux Brothers (8943674) **1.30** Room Service (5490939) **2.00** A Change of Mind (2219939) **3.00** Shoot the Video (2350736) **3.30-4.00** Two's Country: The North York Moors. With Tim Grundy (1322552)

UK GOLD

7.00am Give Us a Clue (8849533) **7.30** Neighbours (8968568) **8.00** Sons and Daughters (2281571) **8.30** EastEnders (2280842) **9.00** The Bill (2271194) **9.30** Sutherland's Law (5290378) **10.30** Angels (1571571) **11.30** Terry and June (1769133) **12.00** Sons and Daughters (2364858) **12.30pm** Neighbours (5493026) **1.00** EastEnders (8848804) **1.30** The Bill (5492397) **2.00** After Henry (2446587) **2.30** Foreign Bodies (1329465) **3.00** Knots Landing (3664768) **4.00** Dallas (9165754) **5.00** Every Second Counts (9134858) **5.35** Dick Emery (7536718) **5.50** Hi-De-Hi (4220587) **6.30** EastEnders (1417674) **7.00** Keep it in the Family (2440303) **7.30** Help! (1413858) **8.00** After Henry (2353823) **8.30** Just Good Friends (2445858) **9.00** The Sweeney (9142216) **10.00** The Bill (2365587) **10.30** Top of the Pops (5689787) **11.20** Cool It (5964552) **12.00** Dr Who (3768243) **12.30am** FILM: Brief Encounter (1945). Celia Johnson and Trevor Howard are strangers who fall in love (1589156) **2.00-3.00** Shopping at Night (5893663)

THE CHILDREN'S CHANNEL

6.00am Sesame Street (8333007) **6.55** Garfield and Friends (7893281) **7.25** Eek the Cat (6881842) **7.55** Degrassi Junior High (5681674) **8.25** Super Mario Brothers (4740668) **8.45** Casper and Friends (1949571) **9.00** Sesame Street (62465) **10.00** It's Drobee Time (30007) **12.00** Garfield and Friends (98587) **12.30pm** Eek the Cat (27587) **1.00** Beverly Hills Teens (45197) **1.30** Super Mario Brothers (83837397) **1.45** Baby Follies (83825552) **2.00** Barney and Friends (3262) **2.30** Babar (4484) **3.00** Casper and Friends (1142216) **3.15** Bill and Ted's Excellent Adventures (754378) **3.45** Sonic the Hedgehog (753649) **4.15** Head To Head in 3D (1675939) **4.30-5.00** California Dreams (4620)

NICKELODEON

7.00am Nickalive! (4951649) **7.15** Pee Wee's Playhouse (952303) **7.45** Rugrats (951674) **8.15** Doug (957378) **8.45** Nickalive! (8759216) **9.00** Nick Jr (732674) **12.00** Pee Wee's Playhouse (70113) **12.30pm** The Muppet Show (90465) **1.00** Smoggies (44216) **1.30** Alvin and the Chipmunks (59736) **2.00** Denver the Last Dinosaur (3674) **2.30** Galaxy High School (8688) **3.00** Attack of the Killer Tomatoes (9261) **3.30** Turtles Gold (3113) **4.00** Doug (2620) **4.30** Rugrats (8804) **5.00** Clarissa Explains It All (1026) **5.30** Nickalive! (2484) **6.00** Grimmy (9397) **6.30-7.00** Dracula (5179)

DISCOVERY

4.00pm Birdscape (1414587) **4.30** From Monkeys to Apes (1330571) **5.00** The Blue Revolution (91410939) **6.05** Beyond 2000 (4745552) **7.00** Earth Tremors (9144674) **8.00** Nature Watch (2351465) **8.30** Voyager (2363200) **9.00** First Flights (4014200) **9.30** The X-Planes (5471804) **10.00** Discovery Journal (9143945) **11.00-12.00** Charlotte: Islands out of Time (8856823)

BRAVO

12.00 FILM: The Slime People (1963) (6320129) **1.30pm** Smothers Brothers (5487465) **2.00** thirtysomething (2206465) **3.00** Rat Patrol (2347262) **3.30** Hogan's Heroes (1326378) **4.00** FILM: Dr Goldfoot and the Girl Bombs (1966) (6230552) **5.30** Drama Classics (1325649) **6.00** Get Smart (1315262) **6.30** Police Woman (1699587) **7.30** Honey West (1335026) **8.00** thirtysomething (9044620) **9.00** The Twilight Zone (7114866) **9.30-12.00** FILM: Modesty Blaise (1966) (7479253)

UK LIVING

6.00am Agony Hour (6257668) **7.00** Living (8765026) **8.00** Health UK (9887787) **8.30** Rendezvous (6269088) **9.00** Front Gardens (2203420) **9.30** Kate and Allie (7532194) **10.05** Now You See It (1085610) **10.30** Susan Powter (4637084) **11.00** Young and Restless (7269281) **12.00** A Cook's Tour (8622571) **12.35pm** Rendezvous (48416649) **1.05** Kilroy (8469194) **2.00** Agony Hour (1148842) **3.00** Living (7845804) **3.45** Gladrags (65345649) **4.00** Infatuation (9462823) **4.30** Crosswits (63072007) **4.55** Raw Energy (7633571) **5.35** Mr and Mrs Show (7291200) **6.05** Susan Powter (8604674) **6.30** Brookside (9463552) **7.00** Living (9912026) **8.00** Young and Restless (8094674) **9.00** FILM: Mad in America (1982) (98325649) **10.50** Sneak Scenes (8072823) **11.00** Brookside (1784804) **11.30-12.00** Infatuation UK (1144397)

FAMILY CHANNEL

5.00am Dangermouse (7842) **5.30** Where I Live (8200) **6.00** The Black Stallion (977484) **6.25** All Clued Up (576755) **7.00** Trivial Pursuit (4378) **7.30** My Two Dads (2649) **8.00** Christy (94858) **9.00** Moonlighting (11674) **10.00** Family Catchphrase (99216) **10.30** GP (24655) **11.00** Lou Grant (12484) **12.00** Rhoda (64205) **12.30pm** Big Brother Jake (52972) **1.00** Dangermouse (41040) **1.30** Trivial Pursuit (64243) **2.00** Moonlighting (75804) **3.00** Lou Grant (81601) **4.00** Rhoda (36243) **4.30-5.00** Big Brother Jake (39205)

MTV

5.00am Awake on the Wildside (65473) **6.30** The Grind (85842) **7.00** Awake on the Wildside (11378) **8.00** VJ Ingo (542533) **11.00** The Soul (45179) **12.00** Greatest Hits (35552) **1.00pm** The Afternoon Mix (253842) **3.30** Coca Cola Report (6108385) **3.45** Cinematic (9928020) **4.00** News (1750674) **4.15** 3 From 1 (1677397) **4.30** Dial (3378) **5.00** Music (21755) **6.30** Sports (8823) **7.00** Hits (14668) **8.00** Most Wanted (29262) **9.30** Beavis and Butt-Head (36281) **10.00** Coca Cola Report (530378) **10.15** Cinematic (528533) **10.30** News (694281) **10.45** 3 From 1 (699736) **11.00** The End? (77571) **1.00am** Soul of MTV (10935) **2.00** Grind (14021) **2.30-5.00** Night Videos (9601392)

VH-1

7.00am Crawling from the Wreckage (9904200) **9.00** Café (8226262) **12.00** The Bridge (7877378) **1.30pm** Ten of the Best (9638484) **2.30** Heart and Soul (3706262) **3.30** Into the Music (9783133) **6.00** Prime Cuts (1692823) **7.00** For You (5906200) **8.00** Rock (5982620) **9.00** Ten of the Best (5902484) **10.00** The Bridge (4607736) **11.30** The Nightfly (4608465) **1.30am** Ten of the Best (5880656) **2.30-7.00** Dawn Patrol (7933682)

CMT EUROPE

Country music from **6am** to **7pm**, incl **5.00pm** Dance Ranch **6.00-7.00** Big Ticket

ZEE TV

6.00am Persian Dawn (62426533) **7.00** Asian Morning (80548910) **8.30** Hum Zameen (75934378) **9.00** Hindi Movie (84132755) **12.00** Andaaz (75938194) **12.30pm** Manasi (81885668) **1.00** Hindi Movie (29120026) **4.00** Chunah (78782007) **4.30** Serial: Yugantar (78771991) **5.00** Kab Kyon Kahan (92508587) **5.30** Zee and U (78795571) **6.00** Spectrum Sports (78782484) **6.30** Mustafain (78783736) **7.00** Video Junction (92415823) **7.30** Swayamvar 2000 (78772620) **8.00** News Bulletin (92424571) **8.30** Antakshri (92410378) **9.00** Campus (34451200) **9.30** Aap Ki Adalat (81865804) **10.00** Insight (75939823) **10.30** India Business Review (75948571) **11.00** Kachwa Aur Khargosh (34536945) **11.30** Krishna (49232620) **12.00** Asian Morning (30654224) **1.30-6.00am** Sight and Sound (74637048)

CARTOON NETWORK/TNT

Continuous cartoons from 5am to 7pm, then TNT films as below.
Theme: Spotlight on Robert Walker
7.00 Her Highness and the Bellboy (1945) (16858645) **9.00 Bataan** (1943) (76202310) **11.00 The Beginning or the End** (1947) (39172610) **1.05 What Next, Corporal Hargrove?** (1945) (62640804) **2.50 Please Believe Me** (1950) (43235427)

CNN/QVC

CNN provides 24-hour news coverage and QVC is the home shopping channel

Strike action ruled out

Players seek pay pledge from TCCB

BY ALAN LEE, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

THREATS of militancy are alien to the average county cricketer but this morning the employers must take heed of a new and determined mood. The players are prepared to take action, possibly drastic action, unless they are assured that their lot will be substantially improved in the wake of the sudden wealth acquired by the English game from its £60 million television rights deal.

Every county delegate heading to Lord's for the spring meeting of the Test and County Cricket Board (TCCB), which begins today, has been faxed a copy of a statement from the Cricketers' Association, the players' union, containing an implicit threat of disruption in pursuit of their wage claim.

After their own annual meeting last week, the players express themselves "extremely disappointed" by the board's rejection of a £20,000 minimum for capped players this year. It is reluctantly, perhaps sceptically, acknowledged that money has been allocated elsewhere. Already, however, the players have set their sights on 1996 and their words make it clear that they will not easily be placated a second time.

They have asked the TCCB to guarantee that future agreements "will recognise and take into account the shortfall for 1995". Most significantly, the statement adds: "We would like to receive the TCCB's confirmation of the above and a date for commencement of negotiations for 1996 before the board asks members to sign their declaration for the coming season."

The declaration is not a playing contract, which is the province of each individual county, but an undertaking to abide by the rules and regulations of the board on all matters, including conduct and international availability. Every contracted player must sign such a form and if the association's 360 members withheld signatures *en bloc*, the board would be faced with a considerable problem.

David Graveney, the general secretary of the association, is at pains to stress that strike action is not being considered. He also points out that most counties already apply the £20,000 minimum and that the shortfall is therefore small. But by refusing to sign the agreements with the TCCB, the players would be inviting a confrontation. Technically, the board could rule them all ineligible to play in its competitions, though this would be a crazily counter-productive move.

A quiet challenge to authority is issued in another paragraph of the players' proclamation: "The counties should be mindful of the disservice to the game which would be perpetrated should record profits be announced at the end of 1995 without steps being taken to increase the limited rewards of the players."

The statement will raise hackles at Lord's today, as is its intention. But it is simply a warning shot in what could become a far more serious battle. The board has been either coy or indecisive about how it will spend its new-found riches. The players are quite right in demanding their share.

Graveney and his executive committee are fully prepared to see county staffs cut to accommodate higher salaries — indeed, they would welcome it. Their statement, far from focusing entirely on personal gain, also encourages the counties to develop a national coaching structure and to disown the self-interests which are "a continual blight upon our game" by agreeing to the central employment of groundsmen, in pursuit of better four-day pitches. The association has also drawn up its own code of conduct, a welcome initiative.

The players' unrest is likely to deflect some attention from England affairs but the position of the team manager, Keith Fletcher, will be discussed in full when the winter tours are considered. Fletcher has no intention of resigning, with more than two years of his contract to run, and indications are that he will continue in the job at least until the end of the summer.

Some county chairmen have been militating for Fletcher's removal, citing his perceived failure to create a sense of purpose among England players. Raymond Illingworth, the chairman of selectors, has also been conspicuously shy when the need has arisen to support Fletcher.

More is at stake, however, than one man's job. To dismiss Fletcher would cost the board £100,000 and it would be left with the problem of appointing a successor in a role for which candidates and a job description are equally elusive.

The eventual solution may be for Illingworth to run the side full time, with an assistant dealing primarily with net practice and administration. Such a step, however, is highly unlikely to be agreed at Lord's in the next two days.

Graveney's way, page 39

Pakistan cricket managers are to address bribery allegations against their captain, Salim Malik, for the first time. The three-member committee supervising cricket affairs since the dissolution of the domestic cricket board last year is scheduled to meet in Lahore today. Heading the agenda will be claims by the Australians, Shane Warne and Tim May, that they were offered bribes during the Tests in Pakistan last year.

Arrowsmith skates past qualification hurdle



Jenna Arrowsmith came thirteenth out of 18 competitors seeking to qualify for the world figure skating championships at Birmingham yesterday. The British champion will nevertheless compete as the host nation's automatic representative. Reports, page 42. Photograph: Kevin Lamarque

FA blocks Armstrong's path back

BY JOHN GOODBODY

TO THE frustration of his club, Chris Armstrong, the Crystal Palace forward, has been barred by the Football Association from playing for at least another week after being found positive for taking cannabis in an out-of-competition test.

Armstrong will miss both the Coca-Cola Cup semi-final second leg against Liverpool on Wednesday night and the FA Carling Premiership match against Aston Villa on Saturday.

However, if his rehabilitation continues satisfactorily, the FA may allow Armstrong, at 23 one of the most talented young strikers in English football, to play in the Premiership game against Sheffield Wednesday next Tuesday. This would mean that he had been out of the game for three of four weeks, the normal rehabilitation for anyone taking cannabis.

His absence from the next two games will damage Palace's hopes of reaching the Coca-Cola Cup final and of escaping relegation to the Endsleigh Insurance League. He has already missed two matches while he was undergoing treatment. Palace are at present third from bottom of the Premiership.

The FA said yesterday that it could not consider drug-taking "a minor matter". It went on: "Less than a week ago, Crystal Palace agreed to a programme of assessment and counselling for Armstrong. It is less than two weeks since the player was confirmed as taking marijuana.

"A drugs programme drawn up jointly by the FA and the Professional Footballers' Association [PFA], with professional advice from the Sports Council, cannot be adjusted to meet the understandable desire of any club to play its strongest team in every game."

The FA added that it "deeply regretted" the publicity in recent days and that "confidentiality in medical matters is a universally accepted concept; when it is broken, it is bound to be detrimental to all involved".

Alan Smith, the Palace manager, said: "The whole thing is a storm in a tea-cup. I cannot see what the problem is. This is so minor, it is ridiculous. He has apologised. We have dealt with the matter internally and now he is fit."

He said that he did not want "the boy destroyed by it. Since the day of the tests there has been a cloud over us all as we waited for it to break".

The PFA has said that there have been nine positive tests since out-of-competition testing began at the start of the season, but they have largely involved mild stimulants in cold cures.

The game has been particularly alert to the problems of drugs ever since Paul Merson, the Arsenal and England forward, admitted in November to taking cocaine. He had to undergo treatment before being allowed to return to the Premiership.

Although marijuana is a recreational, rather than a performance-enhancing, drug, it is still a criminal offence to possess the substance.

Both the FA and the PFA are concerned that many youngsters who earn a lot of money may become the target of pushers. Last season, nine of the 1,300 members of the PFA, aged between 16 and 18, were helped with drug problems.

The International Olympic Committee (IOC) tested for marijuana for the first time at the 1988 Olympic Games, although it took no action over the "very few positives" that were found. The IOC took its action after being asked by several countries to see whether it was a problem among top-class competitors.

Awkward squad ready to trip Cole

BY PETER BALL

MANCHESTER United have not had long to enjoy the Premiership record 9-0 score. Tonight they return to Selhurst Park — the scene against Crystal Palace two months ago of their unhappiest night of the season — this time to meet Wimbledon.

Then, as now, a win would take them to the top of the table, at least for 24 hours, but if the disorder of that night should be avoided, a return to reality with a bump after the euphoria of Saturday's romp seems almost guaranteed, against the other member of the south London awkward squad.

"We cannot stay on cloud nine for long, because you can be sure Wimbledon will be fired up to bring us down to earth," Alex Ferguson, the Manchester United manager, said. Wimbledon are always at their most dangerous when wounded, and after consecutive home defeats, they are likely to provide testing opposition.

Ferguson was eager to ensure his side did not get carried away, and particularly Andy Cole, whose five goals took his tally to seven in seven games since his £7 million signing from Newcastle. Having defended his record signing against criticism before the weekend, he practised a bit of psychology to ensure Cole keeps his feet on the ground.

"If he had taken all his chances, Andy Cole could be sitting on an amazing total of 14 goals from seven games," Ferguson said. "He missed two against Blackburn, three at Everton and a couple against Crystal Palace."

The chances against Crystal Palace and Everton were costly, United taking only one point out of six from games they would have expected to win.

"He seems likely to have got his confidence now OK," Ferguson said. "His first reactions, as he showed particularly in the first and last goals, are so quick."

☐ Eric Cantona was back in training with Manchester United yesterday. Cantona, who trained with the reserves, is expected to help with United's youngsters and assist at their school of excellence during his eight-month ban.

☐ Everton are to appeal against the sending off of Duncan Ferguson at Leicester on Saturday.

Christie decides not to run and run

BY DAVID POWELL, ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT

THE tale of intrigue yesterday was in the best traditions of dear old Agatha. Only this script was the work of another Christie. The one whose legs run and run.

Linford Christie, who has been appearing for a tenth year as one of the fastest men on Earth, told a German television interviewer on Sunday that he would not be competing in the world indoor championships in Barcelona this week. Eight days earlier, he had told the British media that he would be.

At a press conference last Tuesday, his name was down for the 60 metres when the Great Britain squad was announced. On Saturday he ran one of his fastest indoor 60 metres, 6.49sec. Who could possibly beat him in Barcelona?

The plot thickened on Sunday evening when Ron Roddan, Christie's coach, and Verona Elder, the Great Britain team manager, were asked to clarify Christie's position in the light of his interview on German television. Both said they were not aware of his intention to withdraw, though Elder did say Christie had been tired.

Tony Ward, the British Athletic Federation spokesman, said yesterday morning that the fog was "making us look slightly ridiculous". Meanwhile, the International Amateur Athletic Federation thought it had fallen into the mousetrap.

Assured by Sandro Giovannelli, the IAAF's competitions director, that Christie was out, Winner was quoted by international news agencies as saying that he was "disappointed, shocked and flabbergasted" at Christie's withdrawal. Winner said on Radio 5 Live's lunchtime news that "one expects a certain moral leadership".

As *The Times* called, Winner was feeling like a loser. "This is the worst day of my life," he said. "Now Sandro is saying 'wait a minute'; he had not spoken personally to Linford. Now I realise it is athletics gossip. I have been caught in a trap which was accidentally set for me."

Or so he thought. An hour later, Winner was back on the attack. The athletics put out a statement confirming his withdrawal. "I am tired," Christie said.

"I think his morale picked up by winning [on Saturday] after a couple of losses and he did not need the world championships," Winner said. "He could have done his country and sport a favour."



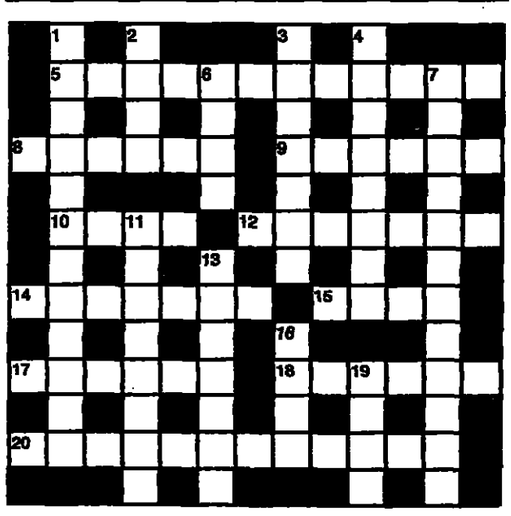
Christie: "I am tired"

The IAAF is smarting at the United States' failure to send any luminaries to Barcelona and Christie walked into the rebound. He has performed more than his share of favours for Britain: his presence in the feeble 1991 British world indoor championships team is one example.

Like all good whodunnits, the reader needs to be thrown off the scent. By now you might think Christie the villain. Think again.

The chief suspect must surely be the BAF which, it transpired, was informed of Christie's decision last Tuesday before the team was announced. The BAF kept it from the press thinking that Christie would probably run. Today the BAF launches its strategic plan for the future. The suspense is killing.

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



No 413

ACROSS

5 Language of William I (6,6)
8 Brief rainfall; sloppy team (6)
9 Hidden, implicit (6)
10 Rectangular courtyard (4)
12 Caretaker (7)
14 Stabbed through (7)
15 Class of words denoting action (4)
17 Folk instrument, box with plucked strings (6)
18 Of physical differences of human groups (6)
20 Hal/Percy/Falstaff play (5,2,4,1)

DOWN

1 Alert, watchful (2,3,3,4)
2 Top of hill; forehead (4)
3 Pass (burden) to another (7)
4 Straddle (8)
6 Square English measure (4)
7 Isn't that astonishing! (3,3,4,2)
11 Cattle breed; old Scots county (8)
13 Newly-enlisted person (7)
16 Tiny drink; let fall (4)
19 Remedy; French priest (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 412

ACROSS: 1 Tickled pink 8 Panel 9 Rat race 10 Dial 11 Farewell 13 Purple 14 Yellow 17 Rapacity 19 Snow 22 Cholera 23 Up-end 24 Greenmantle

DOWN: 1 Tepid 2 Centaur 3 Loll 4 Dorian 5 In the red 6 Knave 7 Mellow 12 Black eye 13 Piracy 15 Lenient 16 Strain 18 Prong 20 Wedge 21 Puma

TIMES PUBLICATIONS: The Times Guides: English Style and Usage (HB) £8.99. International Finance, Japan, Nations of the World, Middle East, Good University Guide 1994-5, Single European Market £9.99 each, Peoples of Europe (HB) £16.99, European Parliament - June 1994 (HB) £26, NEW The Times Guide to the New British State £17.99, The Times Maps: The World (Wall Map laminated) 62"x40" £15.99, (folded) 45"x30" £5.99, Miscellaneous: The Times Night Sky 1995 £4.50, The Times 1000 1995 (HB) £33.50, The Times Concise Atlas of the Bible (HB) £13.99 (reduced from £15.99), The Sunday Times Book of Answers £4.50, Book of Brainteasers £5.49. Prices include P&P (UK). Cheques with order payable to Akom Ltd 51 Manor Lane, London, SE13 5QW. Return delivery. Tel. 0181 852 4575 (24hrs) No credit cards.

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